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SOMERSET COUNTY COUNCIL



REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR
1963

J. F. DAVIDSON,

O.B.E., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

County Medical Officer of Health.

PRINCIPAL CONTENTS

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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE OF THE
SOMERSET COUNTY COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Twenty-seventh Annual Report on the Public Health Services of Somerset.

The general state of public health in the County, and particularly in the County's children, continues at a high and satisfactory standard.

The statistical details required by the Ministry of Health are included in the Report, and, in addition, there will be found notes on the various services which are the responsibility of your Department.

Despite the extent of official services as we know them today, the amount and value of voluntary help from all sources in Somerset is immense, and the Department is most grateful to both organisations and individuals for the assistance so readily given.

The Staff of the Department within the central office and in the field continue to give loyal and efficient service, and we acknowledge also the co-operation of the other Departments of the County Council.

Dr. Parry Jones and Mr. R. F. Cottrell, the Chief Administrative Officer, have been responsible for the preparation of the details for this Report, and my special thanks go to them.

Finally, as this will be the last Somerset Report for which I will be responsible, I take the opportunity of saying how grateful I have been for the loyal assistance and help which I have received throughout a very long tenure of office.

I am

Yours faithfully,

J. F. DAVIDSON

County Medical Officer of Health.

County Hall,
Taunton.

October, 1964.

STAFF

The following are the Senior Public Health Officers:—

CENTRAL OFFICE STAFF :

County Medical Officer of Health :

Principal School Medical Officer :

J. F. DAVIDSON, O.B.E., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Deputy County Medical Officer of Health :

Deputy Principal School Medical Officer :

A. PARRY JONES, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Senior Medical Officer for Maternal and Child Welfare :

B. MARY. THOMPSON, M.D., B.S., D.P.H.

Assistant County Medical Officer :

W. MARGARET BOND, M.B., B.S., D.C.H., D.Obst. R.C.O.G.

Chief Dental Officer :

QUENTIN A. DAVIES, L.D.S., R.C.S. (Eng.)

County Public Analyst :

JOAN D. PEDEN, B.Sc., F.R.I.C.

County Health Inspector :

C. E. WATERFALL, M.I.P.H.E., M.A.P.H.I.

Principal Administrative Officer :

R. F. COTTRELL, D.P.A.

County Ambulance Officer :

R. S. J. BISHOP, D.P.A., F.I.A.O.

Mental Health Officer :

A. H. EDWARDS, D.P.A., F.C.C.S.

County Nursing Officer :

MISS E. J. GILLERAN, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V., Q.N. (retired 31st March, 1963)

MISS F. E. HOUGHTON, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V., Q.N. (from 1st April, 1963)

Home Help Organiser :

MISS L. C. E. CHALK

AREA STAFF :

P. P. FOX, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Area Medical Officer and Divisional School Medical Officer, Yeovil Area (also Medical Officer of Health, Yeovil Borough and Yeovil Rural District).

D. MCGOWAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Area Medical Officer and Divisional School Medical Officer, Weston-super-Mare Area (also Medical Officer of Health, Borough of Weston-super-Mare and Axbridge Rural District).

H. MORRISON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Area Medical Officer and Divisional School Medical Officer, Taunton Area (also Medical Officer of Health, Taunton Borough,

R. H. G. H. DENHAM, M.D.,
D.P.H. (retired 31st March,
1963)

Taunton Rural, Wellington Rural and Urban Districts).

N. NEWMAN, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.
(from 1st April, 1963)

Assistant County Medical Officer, Bathavon Area (also Medical Officer of Health, Frome Urban and Rural, Bathavon Rural and Keynsham Urban Districts).

R. H. WATSON, M.B., Ch.B.,
B.A.O., D.P.H.

Assistant County Medical Officer and Divisional School Medical Officer, Bridgwater Area (also Medical Officer of Health, Bridgwater Borough, Bridgwater Rural and Burnham-on-Sea Urban Districts).

L. McCALL, M.R.C.S.,
M.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Assistant County Medical Officer, Langport Area (also Medical Officer of Health, Chard Borough, Ilminster Urban, Crewkerne Urban, Langport and Chard Rural Districts).

L. CLARE, M.B., B.S.,
D.P.H.

Assistant County Medical Officer, Shepton Mallet Area (also Medical Officer of Health, Shepton Mallet Urban, Shepton Mallet Rural, Wells City, Wells Rural and Street Urban Districts).

COMMITTEES

The following are concerned in matters of public health :—

HEALTH COMMITTEE: and its Sub-Committees for: Midwifery and Nursing Services, Ambulance Service, Water Supplies and Sewage Disposal, Mental Health Services, and Milk.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres) :	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,026,0
Population (1963) :	...	...	...	...	...	...	533,5
Live Births —							
Number :	8,877	Rate per 1,000 population :	...	...			16
Illegitimate Live Births —							
Number :	433	Rate per cent of total live births :	...				4
Stillbirths —							
Number :	139	Rate per 1,000 live and still births :	...				15
Total Live and Stillbirths —							
Number :	9,016	Rate per 1,000 population :	...	...			10
Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year) :	...	...	...	...
Infant Mortality Rates —							
Total Infant deaths (130) per 1,000 total live births :	...						1
Legitimate Infant deaths (122) per 1,000 legitimate live births :							1
Illegitimate Infant deaths (8) per 1,000 illegitimate live births :							1
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks) (97) per 1,000 total live births :							1
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week) (78) per 1,000 total live births :	...	...	...	...	...	...
Peri-natal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined)							
(217) per 1,000 total live and stillbirths :	...	...					2
Maternal Mortality (including abortion) (2) per 1,000 total live and stillbirths:							

COMMENT ON VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS

The number of live births for the year was 8,877, an increase of 177 over last year, which gives a birth rate of 16.63 per thousand population, as compared with 16.50 for 1962. As will be seen from Table 5 the birth rate for England and Wales for 1963 was 18.20, but for true comparison purposes the Somerset figure has to be adjusted to make approximate allowances for which the sex and age distribution of Somerset varies from that of England and Wales. The adjusted figure for Somerset was 18.13.

STILL-BIRTHS. The rate has dropped to a new low level of 15.4 (England and Wales 17.2) with a fall in numbers from 153 to 139.

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS totalling 433 live births and 8 stillbirths, show little change from 438 and 6 last year. The rate of 4.9% of live births compares very favourably with the national rate which is 6.9%.

INFANT DEATHS. The number of babies dying before they were 1 year old fell from 151 to 130, which gives a record low rate of 14.7 compared with that of 20.9 for England and Wales. (Illegitimate babies are still at a disadvantage as shown by their higher rate of 18.5). The South Western Region rate is 18.6. Deaths in the first week totalled 13, giving a rate of 8.8, and in the first month were 97, with a rate of 10.9. These exceptionally low rates parallel those of 1961. In both years the survival rate of underweight (premature) babies was unusually high, for which tribute must be paid to the obstetric and paediatric services. Children who died between the ages of one and five years numbered 19 compared with 30 last year. This figure includes 7 deaths from accidents compared with 2 in 1962.

PERINATAL DEATHS. The stillbirths and first week deaths together totalled 217 (251 in 1962), with a very low rate of 24.1 which is a great improvement on the 35.8 of eight years ago. The national rate is 29.3.

MATERNAL DEATHS. Deaths of mothers due to childbirth numbered 2 — both being young mothers under 25 years of age. The rate of 0.22 compares with 0.34 in 1962, and is lower than the national one of 0.28.

DEATHS

Statistical details regarding deaths are given in later tables. It will be noted that the death rate at 13.06 was slightly higher than for the previous year at 12.38. The rate for England and Wales was 12.2 and to compare the Somerset figures with the country's rate it has to be adjusted in the same way as the birth rate. After adjustment the comparable Somerset rate was 11.23.

PREVENTION OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Table 6 gives details of notified cases of infectious diseases and their distribution, with comparative figures for the previous year. There were no cases of diphtheria.

POLIOMYELITIS. The confirmed cases numbered 1 compared with 0 for 1962 and 6 for 1961.

VENEREAL DISEASE. The usual table is given below and shows the number of new cases at various centres in the County during 1963.

Centre	NEW CASES			Increase or Decrease during 1963
	1961	1962	1963	
Bath	11 (49)	10 (65)	7 (46)	- 3 (-19)
Bridgwater	4 (37)	12 (25)	3 (30)	- 9 (+ 5)
Bristol	34 (91)	22 (97)	Figures not now available	
Taunton	8 (46)	17 (53)	16 (68)	- 1 (+15)
Weston-super-Mare	4 (25)	7 (19)	10 (28)	+ 3 (+ 9)
Yeovil	3 (30)	5 (32)	2 (39)	- 3 (+ 7)
All Clinics	64 (278)	73 (291)	38 (211) (Excluding Bristol figures)	- 13 (+17)

The figures shown in brackets are the numbers of new cases suffering from 'other conditions' and conditions undiagnosed at 31st December, 1963.

BLIND PERSONS

The Somerset Association for the Blind continues to carry out the general work on behalf of, and with a grant from, the County Council. This arrangement works very well in practice, and with real advantages to the blind.

Nine Home Teachers, one of whom is blind, were employed by the County Association during 1963. There were 24 home workers and 4 workshop employees under the supervision of the Bristol Royal Blind Asylum Workshops. At the end of 1963, 1,212 persons (488 male and 724 female) in the County were registered as blind — this is a decrease of 9 over 1962. In addition, there were 186 persons registered as being Partially Sighted.

As previously, prior to admission to the Register of Blind Persons, it is necessary for certification to be carried out by a medical practitioner, with special experience in ophthalmology. In a very few instances of the aged or bedridden in remote areas, it is possible, by a modification agreed to by the Minister of Health, for the medical attendant to supply the necessary information on form B.D.8. Little delay is now experienced generally in having persons known to be blind admitted to the Register, and the co-operation of Ophthalmic Surgeons in supplying the necessary information is appreciated.

An examination of 147 forms B.D.8. received during the year shows the following:—

FOLLOW-UP OF REGISTERED BLIND AND PARTIALLY SIGHTED PERSONS

(i) Number of cases registered during the year in respect of which para. 7(c) of forms B.D.8 recommends :—	Cataract	Glaucoma	Retrolental Fibroplasia	Others
(a) No treatment	14	14	0	84
(b) Treatment, (medical, surgical or optical)	8	8	0	19
(ii) Number of cases at (i) (b) above which on follow-up action have received treatment.	5 Treated 1 Refused 1 Died 1 Too frail	6 Treated 2 Too frail		17 Treated — Died 2 Too frail

Once again, no cases of blindness from retrolental fibroplasia were registered during the year.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM

(i) Total number of cases notified during the year	...	...	...	...	1
(ii) Number of cases in which :—					
(a) Vision lost	...	...	...	...	NIL
(b) Vision impaired	...	...	...	...	NIL
(c) Treatment continuing at end of year	...	...	...	...	NIL

MATERNAL AND CHILD WELFARE

In 1963 there have been no new developments but a slow extension of existing facilities, and co-operation between various local branches of the health and welfare services has continued to grow satisfactorily. We have been pleased to welcome during the year, overseas visitors from the United States and Scandinavia and have been interested to compare their services and results with ours.

EXPECTANT PARENTS. Ante-natal clinics, as such, are no longer provided by County medical staff, but joint sessions of midwives with general practitioners continue to increase. The Mary Stanley Maternity Home ante-natal clinic serves hospital and home-booked cases — an ideal arrangement which could well be applied in other areas, if accommodation were only available.

BLOOD TAKING CLINICS. These are still provided in 5 centres — Bridgwater, Chard, Crewkerne, Glastonbury and Yeovil and total 9 sessions a month. Specimens were collected from 2,444 attenders, slightly more than last year. Of the 7,873 mothers delivered in Somerset last year 7,651 (97.3%) had their blood tested ante-natally.

PARENTCRAFT CLASSES. At the end of 1963 classes were available in 26 centres, usually providing weekly sessions. Some hospitals also provide these classes and in addition a number of county mothers attend local authority classes in Bristol or Bath, which are more convenient for them. In more rural areas, individual advice continues to be given.

RELAXATION CLASSES. These are normally conducted in conjunction with Parentcraft classes, either by the local midwives or by physiotherapists working on a sessional basis.

ILLEGITIMACY. In addition to the usual services extra help is offered through the social workers of the Somerset Association for Moral Welfare. They assist with the basic problems of finance, employment, accommodation, fostering, adoption, affiliation or changes of name, and perhaps even more important, they help people facing this crisis in their lives to adjust to it and make plans for the future. The Association this year embarked on a new field of work — adoption — through the joint adoption society established with the Bristol Diocesan Moral Welfare Association.

Miss Ackroyd, the organising secretary of the County Association, gives the following report:—

“The figures received from the Registrar General show that 433 illegitimate children were born in the County for 1963. This is about the same figure as in the previous year, but taking into account the increased number of all births in the County during the same period, the actual rate has slightly decreased.

“Most of the social workers are agreed that although the number of cases is approximately the same, the complexity of the work has increased tremendously during the past few years. This is partly due to the much wider variety of people involved, both socially and in age groups, and partly to the increased tempo of present-day life.

“It is obvious that the physical well being of the unmarried mother is affected strongly by her social background and in order that she and the child may have all the necessary care, many of them receive help, mainly from the social workers of the Somerset Moral Welfare Association and a few from the

Children's or Probation Officers, when these are statutorily concerned, all of whom work in co-operation with the Health Visitors. This help often continues for long periods of time.

"Although the list for parents wishing to adopt baby girls had to be closed for a period in the early part of 1963, most of the children offered for adoption have been referred to the Adoption Committee of the Children's Department though some were dealt with by other registered adoption agencies.

"A considerable number of illegitimate children remain in the care of their mothers or with foster mothers and continue to receive help both from the social workers and the health visitors."

MOTHER AND BABY HOME. The County Home at Chard with 6 beds and 4 cots was fully used during the year. Twenty girls were admitted ante-natally, and a further eight came for residence after the birth of their babies, compared with a total of 26 last year. The average duration of stay was 41 days excluding the time spent away in hospital for confinement.

DISTRIBUTION OF WELFARE FOODS. The County Council has continued to arrange for the distribution of Welfare Foods to expectant and nursing mothers and children under five years of age. At the end of the year there were 190 Centres in the County, 93 being in Child Welfare Centres. The table below gives details of the annual sales and again the decrease in demand for National Dried Milk contrasts strongly with the rising number of births. There appears to be a marked preference for proprietary milk foods available at the Child Welfare Centres for mothers attending the clinics.

Year	National Dried Milk (Tins)	Cod Liver Oil (Bottles)	Vitamins A & D for Expectant Mothers (Packets)	Orange Juice (Bottles)
1959	104,984	31,496	24,236	246,467
1961	87,640	23,192	21,617	165,526
1963	74,130	12,155	14,095	115,919

The County Council has undertaken this work since 1954, and a high proportion of the distribution is still carried out by voluntary workers, many of whom have been doing this work since the days of the Ministry of Food.

MATERNITY HOSPITAL BOOKINGS. The County Health Department, by arrangement with the Regional Hospital Board, is responsible for bookings in general practitioner units, and also requests beds in obstetric units in the County and in Bath and Bristol, in addition to those booked directly by Obstetricians in the specialist units. Patients with medical or obstetric grounds are booked on an agreed basis, in consultation with their general practitioner if necessary. Applicants for booking on social grounds are visited by a midwife to assess the need, and their reports are also used by some units to select patients more suitable for early home nursing, should the need arise.

In the small units, a maximum booking at the rate of 2½ per bed per month ensures a reasonably uniform length of stay, only shortened if a number of admissions occur at the same time. No planned early discharge at 48 hours is operated, but at Ashcombe House, Weston-super-Mare, patients possibly suitable for this are selected at the time of booking and the decision made after delivery according to the pressure for beds.

CONFINEMENTS. From the local figures of 8,888 births, 2,321 (26%) compared with 2,458 (28%) in 1962, took place at home. The rising hospital delivery rate is only made possible by sending mothers home early (1,423 this year, compared with 1,021 last). The priority system ensures that beds can only be allocated to those with medical, obstetric or social needs, but some mothers for whom hospital confinement is desirable or even essential, still cannot be persuaded to accept a bed.

PREMATURITY. The term "underweight" is now becoming generally used to describe babies weighing 5½ lbs. or less at birth. The table below relating to this group of children shows little change, in spite of the increased births. The total premature birth rate is 6.3% compared with 6.5% last year.

COUNTY BIRTHS OF UNDERWEIGHT BABIES

1958 – 1963

Year	Total Births	Total Under-weight Babies	%	Total Live Births	Live Under-weight Babies	%	Total Still Births	Stillborn Under-weight Babies	%
1958	7,669	511	6.7	7,514	429	5.7	155	82	53.0
1959	7,731	539	7.0	7,580	468	6.2	151	71	47.0
1960	8,181	540	6.6	8,029	463	5.7	152	77	51.0
1961	8,282	544	6.6	8,139	470	5.8	145	74	51.0
1962	8,694	567	6.5	8,537	481	5.6	157	86	55.0
1963	8,888	565	6.3	8,748	478	5.4	140	87	62.0
England & Wales 1963			7.6			6.7			56.3

CHILD WELFARE AND HEALTH VISITORS' CENTRES. At the end of 1963, there were 138 centres (107 Child Welfare Centres and 31 Health Visitors' Centres), 2 more than in 1962, providing a total of 3,020 (3,036 in 1962) sessions during the year. Over two-thirds of these sessions were attended by doctors – 68 Centres being staffed by assistant county medical officers, 11 by outside doctors and 28 by general practitioners employed on a sessional basis. During the year 2 Centres were closed – at Kewstoke and Rockwell Green; and one combined with a neighbour – Chew Stoke and Chew Magna – and 5 new ones were opened at Corston, Farmborough, North Petherton, Stratton-on-the-Fosse and Worle.

A number of general practitioners run their own children's sessions, mainly for immunisation, but in 8 practices Health Visitors also attend to give advice.

DAY NURSERIES. The three day nurseries – at Bridgwater, Keynsham and Taunton – continue to provide care for children in the priority groups. During the year, the war-time day nursery building in Bridgwater had to be vacated for road development and the children were temporarily accommodated until December, when they moved into a new and attractive building. Plans are being prepared for a new nursery in Taunton as the present site is required by the Borough Council. Average daily attendances at the Day Nurseries which have a total of 90 places, fell to 63, largely due to infectious illnesses. Babies are not accepted under the age of 6 months, except in emergency and every effort is made to ensure that children under the age of 2 years remain with

their mothers rather than go to a nursery. Payment on an assessment scale does mean that the most needy families can, if necessary, have their children cared for in this way, but a very high proportion pay at the full rate (which is still below the full cost) when both parents are working.

NURSERIES AND CHILD-MINDERS REGULATION ACT, 1948. There has been a big increase in this work and during the year 34 visits were paid to applicants for registration. There are now 19 premises registered (two provided by factories) and 26 Child Minders functioning in their own homes. A number of these latter run play groups, nursery schools or day nurseries, and the original distinction made in the Act between premises and persons, is not valid. There were 430 children between the ages of 2 and 5 years, being cared for at the end of the year in this manner, which provided a very useful alternative to residential care for priority cases in areas without day nurseries.

NURSING HOMES. One new Home was approved and two registrations were cancelled, leaving 19 Homes on the register at the end of the year, only one of which took maternity cases. A total of 4 maternity and 280 general beds was available, 12 less than last year. There is one Christian Science Home which is exempt from registration.

VOLUNTARY HELP. Voluntary helpers are an essential part of the work of the Child Welfare Centres and in the distribution of Welfare Foods. Apart from their practical assistance, the existence of this corps of helpers, interested in the health of the community and making their contribution towards it, is a very valuable aspect of health education. This work may often be hard but most workers find that it is also very rewarding and we are fortunate in having no difficulty generally in recruiting to the service. Voluntary organisations such as the W.V.S., Red Cross and St. John Societies, give specific help such as transport to clinics or to hospital, or escorts for convalescents and the loan services for the sick nursed in their own homes.

MARRIAGE GUIDANCE COUNCIL. This service was extended to South Somerset during the year, although necessarily, on a rather limited scale until more Counsellors are trained. Councils are now established in Weston-super-Mare and South Somerset which, together with those in Bristol and Bath, provide an improved service for the County.

FAMILY PLANNING CLINICS. These clinics, run by a voluntary organisation, now provide a fairly comprehensive service in the County. At the end of the year the majority of the 9 clinics at which Somerset people can attend, were able to prescribe contraceptive pills in addition to teaching other methods of birth control. More clinics are also providing routine tests for cancer of the uterus but this service is still limited by the lack of pathological facilities in some parts of the County. It is hoped that this will soon be generally available.

FAMILIES UNDER SPECIAL SUPERVISION. A number of households need more than the usual amount of help from Health Visitors and other social services, either because of parental handicaps, poor housing or other social difficulties. It is important to ensure that these families are not over-visited as often a number of social workers are involved. Towards the end of the year, plans for a re-organised system of recording and for more local co-ordination of services were made and initiated.

HEALTH EDUCATION. As stated in the report for 1959, a Central Health Education Committee has been set up consisting of representatives of groups of nursing staff from throughout the County. This Committee continues to meet together with the Area Nursing Officers at regular intervals. They discuss Health Education in all its aspects, decide on projects for the coming months, pool ideas and collect information and suggestions which will be transmitted back to the groups.

Outside speakers are invited to come to some of these meetings both central and local, to talk on some aspect of health education. The Minutes of the Central Health Education Committee are published in the thrice-yearly bulletins that are circulated to all staff. This arrangement has proved satisfactory as it has resulted in a pooling of ideas and all members of the staff can benefit. It has aroused and kept alive an active interest in this field of work throughout the County.

The Area Nursing Officers do a great deal of work in the field of health education both by lecturing and talking themselves to student nurses and other groups and by sending material to health visitors, nurses and midwives. One Area Nursing Officer is responsible for seeing all posters and pamphlets published and for obtaining supplies. Another undertakes the scrutiny and ordering of film strips and lists of suitable sound films. A third Area Nursing Officer lists all accidents to children reported by the Hospitals, analysing these and using the results as a basis for teaching prevention of accidents.

Area Nursing Officers and Health Visitors have attended Refresher Courses dealing with health education subjects. Health Visitors, both full-time and part-time, have undertaken a good deal of teaching in the schools and have been called upon to talk to Mothers' Clubs, Women's Institutes, etc., as well as undertaking group teaching wherever possible in Child Welfare Centres and in their daily round.

Much use is made of visual aids at Child Welfare Clinics, Ante-Natal Clinics, and at Parentcraft meetings, including posters, film-strips and films. Pamphlets on all subjects are readily available. Particular subjects that have been covered during the past year are Home Safety, Smoking, Nutrition in Pregnancy, Dental Care, and Advice to the Adolescent.

Registrar General's Totals. Somerset 1953 - 1963 (England and Wales 1963)

Year	County Population	Live Births	Still Births	Deaths 1st week	Deaths 2 - 4 weeks	Deaths 1 - 12 months	Total Infant Deaths	Deaths 1 - 5 years	Maternal Deaths	Illegitimate Live Births
1953	483,200	7,056	124	113		41	154	33	2	281
1954	485,000	6,948	143	115		42	157	16	2	276
1955	487,800	6,957	154	107		34	144	15	6	252
1956	491,600	7,085	179	109		34	143	21	5	270
1957	495,500	7,370	148	108		31	139	27	4	292
1958	496,900	7,539	157	109		48	157	23	3	247
1959	500,400	7,636	155	89	14	40	143	29	3	299
1960	507,270	8,095	145	106	14	40	160	20	0	345
1961	520,340	8,215	151	73	16	41	130	36	1	372
1962	527,240	8,700	153	98	17	36	151	30	3	438
1963	533,570	8,877	139	78	19	33	130	29	2	433
ENGLAND AND WALES										
1963	47,124,000	856,232	15,000	10,498	1,678	5,867	18,043		244	

Registrar General's Figures. Rates for Somerset 1953 — 1963 (England and Wales 1963)

Year	Live Birth	Still Birth	Illegitimate Live Birth %	Infant Deaths	Neonatal Deaths	First Week Deaths	Perinatal Deaths	Maternal Deaths
1953	14.60	17.3	4.0	21.8	16.0	—	—	0.28
1954	14.33	20.1	4.0	22.6	16.5	—	—	0.28
1955	14.26	21.6	3.6	20.7	15.4	—	—	0.84
1956	14.41	24.6	3.8	20.2	15.4	—	35.8	1.10
1957	14.87	19.7	3.8	18.9	14.7	—	32.1	0.53
1958	15.17	20.4	3.3	20.8	14.5	11.5	31.7	0.26
1959	15.26	19.9	3.9	18.7	13.5	11.7	31.3	0.36
1960	15.9	17.6	4.3	19.8	14.8	13.2	30.4	0.00
1961	15.79	18.04	4.5	15.8	10.8	8.9	26.8	0.12
1962	16.5	17.2	5.0	17.4	13.2	11.3	28.2	0.34
1963	16.6	15.4	4.9	14.7	10.9	8.8	24.1	0.22
ENGLAND AND WALES								
1963	18.2	17.2	6.9	21.1	14.2	12.2	29.3	0.28

MIDWIFERY AND HOME NURSING

For the purposes of the Midwives Acts, the medical supervisor of midwives is the Senior Officer for Maternal and Child Welfare, and non-medical supervision is carried out by the County Nursing Officer and the Area Nursing Officers, the senior of whom acts as deputy to the County Nursing Officer. The work of the Area Nursing Officers has increased and it is hoped in the coming year to appoint two Assistant Area Nursing Officers.

During the year 401 midwives notified intention to practise, 166 hospital and 225 domiciliary; private midwives in Nursing Homes and domiciliary practice number 10. The notifications of exposure to infection numbered 112. Medical aid was sought in 977 cases, of which 65 were for pre-eclamptic toxæmia and 16 ante-partum bleeding.

The general policy of the County Council in maintaining a combined service of midwifery, district nursing and health visiting in rural areas has been maintained. There are full-time midwives and home nurses in Taunton, Bridgwater, Yeovil and Weston-super-Mare, and full-time health visitors in these four Boroughs and at Frome, Clevedon, Keynsham and Wells. Male home nurses are centred on Taunton, Street, Weston-super-Mare, Bridgwater, Portishead, Yeovil and Norton-Radstock.

At the end of 1963 the district nursing, midwifery and health visiting staff consisted of:—

<u>Duties</u>	<u>Full-time</u>	<u>Part-time</u>
Nurse/Midwife/Health Visitors	113	2
Nurse/Midwives	76	18
District Nurses (female)	10	24
District Nurses (male)	7	—
Health Visitors	33	2
Clinic Nurses	—	3
Administrative Staff	6	—
	<hr/> 245	<hr/> 49

There has been some overall improvement in recruitment during the year but long-term sickness and resignation on health grounds have been particularly heavy. This has necessitated the employment of many part-time staff to lessen the burden on the permanent staff.

It is now almost impossible to recruit nurses for mobile relief duties. We are most grateful to those nurses who, from time to time, have so readily left their homes to cover another area temporarily in case of emergency. Shortage of staff continues to be a national problem and there is keen competition for the services of staff of the right calibre.

The number of in-service students from the general nursing, district and health visiting training fields, was again substantial. Not only does this Service offer stimulation to the staff, but it has proved a useful source of recruitment.

Severe weather in the early part of the year put a strain on members of the district nursing staff particularly in the rural areas. They responded splendidly and maintained an efficient service in spite of the difficulties. Many had reason to be grateful for the help that was so readily available from local farmers and others.

HOUSING. Only one district nurse's house was built during the year. The Long Ashton Rural District Council completed a Nurse's House at Winford and a bungalow was purchased at Paulton. The Taunton Nurses' Home was converted into five flats for the nursing staff and this arrangement is much preferred by the residents.

The County Health Department now owns 47 houses (of which 26 have been erected during the last few years) and rents 51 houses for the occupation of the district nursing staff. Proposals for providing nurses' houses are reviewed annually and there are 46 proposals in the Ten Year Programme for building or purchasing houses over the next ten years. Recently, a number of nurses have purchased their own houses and this is a development to be encouraged because house ownership makes for continuity of service.

TRANSPORT. At the end of the year, the County Council were providing a fleet of 135 cars for the use of the district nursing staff, and in addition 125 allowances to nurses using their own cars have been authorised. Safety belts were provided as an experiment in 12 of the new cars purchased by the County Council during 1963.

TRAINING. Post-graduate training has continued, and courses have been attended by nurses for Queen's training, midwifery and health visitor courses. Fupil midwives from Musgrove Park Hospital and the Mary Stanley Nursing Home, Bridgwater, have completed their district training.

The annual Refresher Course was held in May. A very large number of the county nursing staff attended, together with staff from other County Council departments, representatives from neighbouring authorities and from other fields of nursing and social work. The lectures were very valuable and tape recordings were made for future use.

Health Visitor Scholarships were awarded to ten candidates during the year. It is regrettable that there are not more candidates coming forward for selection and some improvement in the conditions of our scholarship awards may be needed next year.

MIDWIFERY. The number of midwives employed in domiciliary practice was 192 and they attended 2,265 deliveries. There was a noticeable increase in the number of cases discharged home for nursing before the tenth day. Good co-operation between the maternity units and the domiciliary service has facilitated the transfer of these cases and enabled them to be visited without delay.

Ambulance escort is carried out by midwives when necessary. Special follow-up arrangements are made for all underweight (premature) babies and advice on facilities and equipment is available from senior staff. At the end of 1963, 150 gas and air, and 10 trilene machines were in use.

HOME NURSING. District nurses visited 13,143 patients during the year. Of the district staff employed at the end of the year, 175 have had district training; it is hoped in time to have all district staff fully trained in district work.

The aged and bed-ridden continue to make heavy demands on nursing staff. Co-operation between the hospital service and district nursing service has been steadily improved both in respect of patients discharged for home care and in the obtaining of reports from domiciliary staff on patients awaiting admission to geriatric units. The co-operation between family doctors and home nurses is extremely good and this, together with close liaison between health visitors in the Boroughs, home helps and other services, makes for an efficient and comprehensive service to patients being nursed at home.

Mechanical aids and lifts are still in demand to assist in the movement of the helpless or partially helpless patient and have proved of immense value in increasing the patient's comfort and lessening the strain on nursing staff.

Increasing use has been made of the Marie Curie Foundation Day and Night Nursing Service and many more sufferers from cancer, and their relatives, have been helped in this way during the year. The Area Welfare Grant Scheme has been used frequently, the grants being used to supply the small extras that otherwise it would not be possible to offer the patient.

As in previous years the British Red Cross Society and the St. John Ambulance Brigade supplied medical comforts of all kinds through a large number of Depots throughout the County, and once again I am happy to acknowledge the help they give which allows patients to be discharged from Hospital more speedily.

HEALTH VISITING. Progress has again been made towards a full-qualified health visiting service as shown in the table below:—

Year	Full-time Health Visitors with H.V. Certificate	District Nursing Staff undertaking Health Visitors duties:	
		With H.V. Certificate	Without H.V. Certificate
1948	25	29	130
1954	30	87	74
1958	31	108	47
1961	31	115	31
1963	33	116	29

Liaison between hospitals and health visitors has continued to improve. Area Nursing Officers or health visitors visit Children's wards and Special Care Units referring any cases requiring follow-up to the appropriate nurse or health visitor. In a number of areas health visitors now assist the family doctors at their own child welfare centres held in the doctors' surgeries.

SCHOOL NURSING. The practice of selective examination of all school children for verminous conditions has proved an advantage, and has given the school nurses more time for liaison with head teachers and for health education. In some boys' schools, male district nurses have been asked to assist with some of this work.

HOME HELP SERVICE

The total number of householders receiving help from the service in 1963 was 4,107, an increase of 76 over the 4,031 helped in 1962. Of these, 2,364 remained on the books at the end of the year, an increase of 143 over 1962. Requests for help rose considerably in the towns of Burnham-on-Sea and Minehead with aging populations and in Keynsham and Saltford with increasing numbers of young families.

Long term cases which have received help from the service regularly for twelve months or more (the aged, the chronic sick, the mentally ill, and families of children) increased from 1,503 to 1,713. This work is not as spectacular as the sudden emergency but it is mainly here that the service shows its true value and where probably the greatest saving in institutional care is made.

In spite of the larger number of old people's homes both statutory and voluntary and of easily run local authority flats with wardens on call, the number of aged who were helped rises year by year — 1,307 in December 1955 became 2,455 in December 1962 and 2,742 in December 1963, the number having more than doubled in eight years.

Maternity bookings on the other hand drop almost as regularly, a fall not entirely due to the number of hospital confinements, as many of the bookings were made in order to help mothers on their return from hospital or to care for the family during the mother's absence. The small number of resident Helps however, increased their number of bookings by nine.

The Children and Young Persons' Act which came into force on 1st October 1963 may affect the Home Help Service greatly in the future as it empowers the Children's Officer to provide and pay for domestic help if by so doing the break-up of a family can be prevented. In the past, Home Helps have not been sent to problem families unless the mother was absent or ill, and help was often refused on the grounds of expense. An arrangement has now been made whereby the Health Department continues to send help to such homes while the Children's Department stipulates the number of hours required and if necessary undertakes payment after deciding what the householder should contribute. Fifty-seven families were receiving some help from the Home Help Service when this Act came into force but by the end of the year two only had become the responsibility of the Children's Officer. The number of Child Care cases rose from 32 in 1962 to 60 in 1963, these being families where the Home Help was taking the place of the mother — not where she was helping a mother who was ill at home.

The number of Home Helps on the books went up from 620 at 31st December 1962, to 690 at 31st December 1963. The individual care and attention given by a Home Help is prized by the aged and lonely, but this very individual attention means that the service is expensive in womanpower and the extra 143 cases on the books at the end of the year may well require 50 or more extra part-time employees. Of the 690 Home Helps employed, 88 only were full-time workers. While these women are essential to the running of the service for child care and maternity work, and for the seriously ill, the Organiser may have some difficulty in keeping them employed on a full-time basis between calls without overdue strain on their health and well-being. The problem of recruitment eased somewhat in many areas though it is possible that the demand will always exceed the supply.

At the inauguration of the service in 1948, the rate of pay for Home Helps was 2s. 0d. an hour. On 1st September 1963 the rate of pay was raised to 3s. 10½d. in Zone A (the larger towns in the county and rural areas bordering on Bristol and Weston-super-Mare) and 3s. 10½d. in Zone B.

Home Helps with a full year's service are entitled to twelve days a year paid leave, and those with ten or more years' service, fifteen days. Holiday entitlement was

extended on 1st September to fifteen days for Home Helps with five years' or more service and eighteen days for those with twelve years' or more service. It is estimated that some 170 women will be eligible for the first, and 60 for the second.

While it is obviously essential that conditions of service for Home Helps should be in line with those of women employed in other work, these concessions must substantially increase overall costs.

The severe weather conditions during the first two months of the year put a heavy strain on this service in common with most others, and though only two women gave up during the worst of the weather, the strain had its effect after the weather broke, and many Home Helps were on prolonged sick leave or left the service through ill-health. Perhaps fortunately, a large number of elderly people were unable to return home after spending Christmas with relatives and their absence lessened our obligations. Never have we been more grateful to our voluntary helpers who were able to keep the service running smoothly in areas which the Organisers were temporarily unable to reach.

Organisers and Assistants made 16,936 visits during the year, compared with 17,657 in 1962, the decrease being due in part to the weather conditions and in part to the fact that new Organisers were appointed to Bridgwater and Taunton with consequent slowing down of visiting time.

HOME HELP SERVICE 1963

Cases attended 1963 (figures in brackets are those for 1962)

Type of case		Bridgwater	Clevedon	Midsomer Norton	Taunton	Weston-super-Mare	Yeovil	Totals
Old age	Ceased cont.	134(126) 346(332)	62 (54) 146(128)	190(159) 507(516)	153(143) 295(195)	139(125) 383(323)	103 (94) 284(270)	781 (701) 1961(1764)
Chronic illness	Ceased cont.	25 (18) 61 (50)	4 (7) 19 (13)	19 (40) 48 (65)	46 (51) 54 (88)	26 (23) 54 (51)	19 (9) 15 (22)	139 (148) 251 (289)
Mental illness	Ceased cont.	6 (6) 12 (8)	1 (6) 1 (—)	1 (—) 8 (1)	9 (13) 3 (6)	4 (8) 8 (4)	8 (3) 4 (9)	29 (36) 36 (28)
Tuberculosis	Ceased cont.	6 (2) 4 (7)	3 (1) — (3)	1 (2) 2 (—)	— (1) — (—)	1 (2) — (1)	3 (3) 3 (4)	14 (11) 9 (15)
Post operative	Ceased cont.	12 (12) 6 (2)	18 (12) — (1)	24 (15) 12 (3)	28 (24) 4 (2)	34 (35) 13 (19)	21 (11) 6 (15)	137 (109) 41 (42)
General illness	Ceased cont.	30 (45) 2 (6)	1 (1) — (—)	34 (2) 9 (—)	27 (78) 1 (9)	24 (76) 4 (28)	18 (30) 4 (1)	134 (232) 20 (44)
Maternity	Ceased cont.	55 (75) — (—)	42 (58) 2 (—)	83 (96) 2 (5)	62 (98) 3 (—)	48 (43) 4 (—)	50 (60) 2 (4)	340 (430) 13 (8)
Post and pre natal	Ceased cont.	24 (19) 1 (2)	10 (11) 2 (1)	18 (19) — (2)	24 (27) 3 (1)	16 (12) 3 (3)	18 (26) 4 (1)	110 (114) 13 (10)
Accidents	Ceased cont.	— (1) — (2)	1 (4) — (1)	— (4) — (1)	6 (—) — (—)	8 (—) — (—)	3 (2) 1 (4)	18 (10) 1 (8)
Child Care	Ceased cont.	11 (9) 7 (1)	7 (1) 3 (1)	1 (1) 2 (5)	14 (4) 2 (2)	2 (2) — (1)	5 (4) 2 (3)	40 (19) 20 (13)
Totals	Ceased	303(313)	149(155)	371(338)	369(439)	302(326)	248(239)	1742(1810)
	cont.	439(411)	173(148)	590(596)	365(303)	469(430)	329(333)	2365(2221)
Totals for year		742(724)	322(303)	961(934)	734(742)	771(756)	577(572)	4107(4031)
New cases visited		356(383)	205(147)	386(392)	392(395)	349(346)	258(241)	1946(1914)
Abortive visits		47 (21)	19 (22)	41 (19)	26 (37)	19 (33)	37 (23)	189 (155)
Cases continued over 12 months		378(278)	107 (93)	410(436)	245(167)	315(257)	258(272)	1713(1508)
Cases continued over 6 months		79 (54)	19 (22)	77 (60)	67 (47)	62 (66)	41 (12)	345 (261)
Maternity cancellations		26 (14)	15 (13)	20 (17)	7 (20)	17 (20)	6 (9)	91 (93)
<u>Home Helps</u>								
Full time		16	5	19	20	18	6	84
Part time		95	39	151	67	78	89	519
Residential		—	—	—	4	—	—	4
Casual		17	10	22	15	6	14	84
<u>Maternity Cases</u>								
Resident		7 (3)	3 (1)	6 (4)	12 (11)	3 (2)	5 (6)	36 (27)
Full time		12 (11)	5 (4)	23 (20)	13 (20)	10 (10)	9 (11)	72 (76)
Part time		18 (20)	19 (33)	30 (39)	22 (28)	21 (13)	32 (44)	142 (185)
Few hours		18 (34)	15 (20)	26 (36)	18 (39)	18 (18)	6 (3)	103 (150)

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

DIPHTHERIA AND WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION

During the year 7,360 children under fifteen years of age completed a primary course of diphtheria immunisation and a further 7,424 received reinforcing injections. 6,946 children were given protection against whooping cough.

TETANUS

Primary courses of tetanus immunisation were completed by 7,716 children under fifteen years of age and a further 6,024 children received a reinforcing injection.

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

As a result of the Ministry of Health recommendation that smallpox vaccination should be carried out during the first two years but preferably during the second year of life, the number of vaccinations recorded in the 'under one year' age-group during 1963 fell. 1,084 children in this group received a primary vaccination as compared with 3,660 in 1961 (the previous 'normal' year).

YELLOW FEVER VACCINATION

Two hundred and seven persons were vaccinated against yellow fever at the Taunton Yellow Fever Vaccination Centre.

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

No major changes in the poliomyelitis vaccination scheme were introduced during the year. Under the Therapeutic Substances Act, Quadruple vaccine (combined diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis and poliomyelitis vaccine) was licensed for sale in this country but no recommendation that it should be brought into general use was made by the Joint Committee on Poliomyelitis Vaccine. The live attenuated poliovirus vaccine (Sabin) largely replaced the injected vaccine (Salk) and of the 8,870 persons who received a primary course of poliomyelitis vaccine 8,175 were vaccinated with the oral (Sabin) vaccine. Following two Salk injections, 808 persons received a third reinforcing injection and 1,210 persons received a reinforcing dose of oral vaccine. The offer of a reinforcing dose to school entrants was continued; 5,701 children received oral vaccine and a further 310 were given reinforcing injections.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Primary Courses

Number of children who completed a full course of primary immunisation in the year ended 31st December, 1963

DISTRICT	Children born in the years:—							TOTAL
	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1954-58	1949-53	
RURAL								
Axbridge	87	185	33	13	5	21	3	347
Bathavon	81	127	9	3	—	11	2	233
Bridgwater	47	141	36	5	—	26	—	255
Chard	63	66	2	2	2	2	1	138
Clutton	42	154	20	3	2	6	—	227
Dulverton	10	18	10	1	—	1	—	40
Frome	38	82	3	3	2	8	—	136
Langport	63	93	12	1	1	3	—	173
Long Ashton	200	312	39	8	3	23	—	585
Shepton Mallet	22	56	7	—	—	16	3	104
Taunton	76	139	19	10	—	12	4	260
Wellington	20	77	8	6	2	4	—	117
Wells	40	85	11	6	1	2	—	145
Williton	45	85	5	4	1	5	—	145
Wincanton	109	111	12	—	—	6	—	238
Yeovil	173	168	16	2	1	31	3	394
Totals :	1116	1899	242	67	20	177	16	3537
URBAN								
Bridgwater	169	243	41	12	5	30	—	500
Burnham	52	75	—	—	1	2	1	131
Chard	37	52	4	1	—	3	—	97
Clevedon	53	101	2	—	—	4	—	160
Crewkerne	29	37	3	1	—	—	—	70
Frome	96	101	11	2	2	1	—	213
Glastonbury	27	54	4	—	—	—	—	85
Ilminster	9	22	2	2	—	—	—	35
Keynsham	39	75	10	—	—	18	1	143
Minehead	42	43	6	—	—	3	—	94
Norton Radstock	60	152	28	3	6	4	—	253
Portishead	36	89	11	2	2	19	1	160
Shepton Mallet	11	28	3	1	—	14	2	59
Street	73	64	5	1	2	4	—	149
Taunton	195	269	31	9	3	19	—	526
Watchet	15	22	2	1	1	—	—	41
Wellington	36	57	6	5	—	3	—	107
Wells	29	63	2	2	—	5	—	101
Weston-s-Mare	166	251	21	5	6	42	11	502
Yeovil	153	192	12	1	3	23	13	397
Totals :	1327	1990	204	48	31	194	29	3823
County Totals :	2443	3889	446	115	51	371	45	7360

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Reinforcing Injections

Number of children who received a reinforcing injection in the year ended
31st December, 1963

DISTRICT	Children born in the years:—						TOTAL
	1962	1961	1960	1959	1954—58	1949—53	
RURAL							
Axbridge	4	9	3	1	285	7	309
Bathavon	3	23	3	4	230	131	394
Bridgwater	14	16	5	4	146	1	186
Chard	9	2	1	1	63	2	78
Clutton	2	7	2	3	165	25	204
Dulverton	—	1	—	—	27	—	28
Frome	2	1	1	2	72	36	114
Langport	12	21	5	4	98	20	160
Long Ashton	7	22	1	1	328	52	411
Shepton Mallet	—	2	—	—	163	76	241
Taunton	4	19	6	2	158	83	272
Wellington	—	—	—	1	67	11	79
Wells	1	2	—	—	127	17	147
Williton	3	14	2	—	106	20	145
Wincanton	10	17	4	6	198	147	382
Yeovil	32	74	6	3	137	191	443
Totals :	103	230	39	32	2370	819	3593
URBAN							
Bridgwater	61	86	10	10	430	53	650
Burnham	2	3	—	1	40	—	46
Chard	1	1	—	1	117	—	120
Clevedon	—	2	4	—	80	2	88
Crewkerne	1	2	1	1	1	—	6
Frome	2	—	1	4	45	16	68
Glastonbury	—	—	—	—	44	—	44
Ilminster	4	1	—	—	46	1	52
Keynsham	1	11	—	1	182	57	252
Minehead	19	16	—	—	57	—	92
Norton Radstock	11	47	10	10	167	9	254
Portishead	—	2	—	—	122	17	141
Shepton Mallet	—	1	4	5	69	47	126
Street	1	1	—	4	55	1	62
Taunton	—	10	2	8	235	197	452
Watchet	5	13	1	1	23	27	70
Wellington	—	1	—	—	63	19	83
Wells	—	—	—	—	88	16	104
Weston-super-Mare	5	8	—	3	502	17	535
Yeovil	39	72	3	7	221	244	586
Totals :	152	277	36	56	2587	723	3831
County Totals :	255	507	75	88	4957	1542	7424

WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION

Number of children who completed a primary course (normally 3 injections)
of pertussis vaccine (singly or in combination) in the year ended
31st December, 1963

DISTRICT	Children born in the years:—							TOTAL
	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1954—58	1949—53	
RURAL								
Axbridge	87	185	32	13	5	2	1	325
Bathavon	81	125	8	3	—	1	2	220
Bridgwater	47	141	35	1	—	1	—	225
Chard	61	65	2	2	2	2	—	134
Clutton	42	154	20	3	2	2	—	223
Dulverton	10	18	10	1	—	1	—	40
Frome	38	82	3	3	2	—	—	128
Langport	63	90	12	1	1	—	—	167
Long Ashton	200	312	39	8	3	5	—	567
Shepton Mallet	20	54	7	—	—	4	1	86
Taunton	76	139	19	10	—	6	1	251
Wellington	20	77	8	5	2	3	—	115
Wells	40	84	11	6	1	2	—	144
Williton	45	85	5	4	1	4	—	144
Wincanton	93	100	5	—	—	2	—	200
Yeovil	173	167	15	2	1	2	1	361
Totals :	1096	1878	231	62	20	37	6	3330
URBAN								
Bridgwater	169	243	41	12	5	3	—	473
Burnham	52	75	—	—	1	1	1	130
Chard	37	52	4	1	—	1	—	95
Clevedon	53	101	2	—	—	—	—	156
Crewkerne	29	37	3	1	—	—	—	70
Frome	96	100	11	2	2	1	—	212
Glastonbury	27	55	4	—	—	—	—	86
Ilminster	8	22	2	2	—	—	—	34
Keynsham	40	75	10	—	—	—	—	125
Minehead	42	43	6	—	—	2	—	93
Norton Radstock	60	152	27	2	6	2	—	249
Portishead	36	89	11	2	2	2	—	142
Shepton Mallet	11	28	3	1	—	—	—	43
Street	73	63	5	1	2	4	—	148
Taunton	195	267	31	9	3	1	—	506
Watchet	15	22	2	1	1	—	—	41
Wellington	36	57	6	4	—	1	—	104
Wells	29	63	2	2	—	—	—	96
Weston-super-Mare	166	250	21	4	3	2	—	446
Yeovil	154	192	17	1	2	1	—	367
Totals :	1328	1986	208	45	27	21	1	3616
County Totals :	2424	3864	439	107	47	58	7	6946

TETANUS IMMUNISATION

Primary Courses

Number of children who completed a full course of primary immunisation in the year ended 31st December, 1963

DISTRICT	Children born in the years:—							TOTAL
	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1954—58	1949—53	
RURAL								
Axbridge	87	185	33	13	5	14	2	339
Bathavon	83	128	9	3	—	12	3	238
Bridgwater	47	141	35	4	—	27	—	254
Chard	63	66	2	2	2	2	1	138
Clutton	42	154	20	4	2	7	—	229
Dulverton	10	18	10	1	—	2	1	42
Frome	38	82	3	3	2	8	—	136
Langport	63	93	12	1	1	4	—	174
Long Ashton	200	312	39	8	3	27	2	591
Shepton Mallet	22	56	7	—	—	16	3	104
Taunton	76	139	19	10	—	19	4	267
Wellington	20	77	8	6	2	6	—	119
Wells	40	85	11	6	1	4	—	147
Williton	45	85	5	4	1	9	—	149
Wincanton	109	111	13	2	—	6	2	243
Yeovil	173	168	16	3	1	50	52	463
Totals :	1118	1900	242	70	20	213	70	3633
URBAN								
Bridgwater	169	243	41	12	5	33	—	503
Burnham	52	75	—	—	1	3	1	132
Chard	37	52	4	1	—	3	—	97
Clevedon	53	100	2	—	—	4	—	159
Crewkerne	29	37	3	1	—	—	—	70
Frome	96	101	9	2	2	1	—	211
Glastonbury	27	54	4	—	—	—	—	85
Ilminster	9	22	2	2	—	—	—	35
Keynsham	39	75	10	—	—	18	1	143
Minehead	42	43	6	—	—	4	—	95
Norton Radstock	60	152	28	2	6	4	—	252
Portishead	36	89	11	2	2	19	1	160
Shepton Mallet	11	28	3	1	—	14	2	59
Street	73	64	5	1	2	4	—	149
Taunton	195	269	31	9	3	34	—	541
Watchet	15	22	2	1	1	—	—	41
Wellington	36	57	6	5	—	3	—	107
Wells	29	63	2	2	—	5	—	101
Weston-super-Mare	166	251	21	4	5	17	6	470
Yeovil	154	193	17	1	4	134	170	673
Totals :	1328	1990	207	46	31	300	181	4083
County Totals :	2446	3890	449	116	51	513	251	7716

TETANUS IMMUNISATION Reinforcing Injections

Number of children who received a reinforcing injection in the year ended
31st December, 1963

DISTRICT	Children born in the years:—						TOTAL
	1962	1961	1960	1959	1954—58	1949—53	
RURAL							
Axbridge	4	9	3	1	79	1	97
Bathavon	3	23	3	4	218	128	379
Bridgwater	14	16	5	4	146	1	186
Chard	7	2	1	1	61	3	75
Clutton	2	7	2	3	153	20	187
Dulverton	—	1	—	—	23	—	24
Frome	2	1	1	1	69	34	108
Langport	12	21	5	4	96	20	158
Long Ashton	7	22	1	1	323	58	412
Shepton Mallet	—	2	—	—	160	68	230
Taunton	4	19	6	2	135	79	245
Wellington	—	—	—	1	63	11	75
Wells	1	2	—	—	115	16	134
Williton	3	14	2	—	106	20	145
Wincanton	10	17	4	6	195	147	379
Yeovil	32	74	6	3	56	11	182
Totals :	101	230	39	31	1998	617	3016
URBAN							
Bridgwater	61	86	10	10	428	53	648
Burnham	2	3	—	1	40	1	47
Chard	1	—	—	1	117	—	119
Clevedon	—	2	4	—	80	2	88
Crewkerne	1	2	1	1	—	—	5
Frome	2	—	1	4	45	16	68
Glastonbury	—	—	—	—	44	—	44
Ilminster	4	1	—	1	46	1	53
Keynsham	1	11	—	1	183	57	253
Minehead	19	16	—	—	54	—	89
Norton Radstock	11	47	10	10	157	6	241
Portishead	—	2	—	—	122	17	141
Shepton Mallet	—	1	4	5	69	44	123
Street	1	1	—	4	55	1	62
Taunton	—	10	2	9	225	195	441
Watchet	5	13	1	1	23	27	70
Wellington	—	1	—	—	62	12	75
Wells	—	—	—	—	83	16	99
Weston-super-Mare	5	8	—	2	100	9	124
Yeovil	35	68	3	7	81	24	218
Totals :	148	272	36	57	2014	481	3008
County Totals :	249	502	75	88	4012	1098	6024

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

Number of Persons vaccinated (or re-vaccinated) in the year ended 31st December, 1963

Age groups :—	0—3 mths	4—6 mths	7—9 mths	10—12 mths	1 year		2—4 years		5—14 years		15 or over	
	P	P	P	P	P	R	P	R	P	R	P	R
RURAL												
Axbridge	6	22	6	5	11	—	2	2	8	9	14	49
Bathavon	3	6	6	6	17	—	7	3	7	8	17	47
Bridgwater	8	32	15	2	6	—	3	1	5	3	10	24
Chard	4	2	2	4	10	—	1	—	—	—	—	8
Clutton	3	7	6	3	8	—	1	1	8	2	6	9
Dulverton	—	1	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	2	2	5
Frome	1	7	3	2	5	—	1	—	7	1	5	11
Langport	11	8	12	6	8	—	1	1	1	6	5	17
Long Ashton	14	15	12	12	27	—	7	4	5	8	14	30
Shepton Mallet	8	5	5	1	3	—	1	1	11	9	15	16
Taunton	9	31	11	5	15	—	4	2	5	11	8	38
Wellington	3	6	2	9	15	—	3	—	5	3	9	13
Wells	3	5	3	1	14	—	1	—	3	—	3	10
Williton	5	14	3	5	13	1	2	3	6	8	3	21
Wincanton	8	52	11	7	25	—	4	—	2	11	2	15
Yeovil	7	25	13	18	24	—	1	1	38	94	10	39
Totals :	93	238	110	86	207	1	39	19	111	175	123	352
URBAN												
Bridgwater	7	17	2	3	13	—	7	3	7	2	10	17
Burnham	3	15	8	2	4	—	2	2	1	2	5	24
Chard	—	8	10	3	2	—	—	—	—	3	2	5
Clevedon	27	4	2	5	10	—	—	—	3	2	4	17
Crewkerne	7	1	3	5	1	—	1	—	1	3	2	1
Frome	—	5	3	4	17	1	1	3	1	2	6	16
Glastonbury	13	9	5	4	2	—	—	2	—	1	1	4
Ilminster	2	—	—	1	2	—	1	—	—	—	4	1
Keynsham	6	7	1	4	13	—	—	—	—	—	3	1
Minehead	4	18	6	5	10	—	1	—	4	14	9	43
Norton Radstock	8	15	4	1	7	—	—	—	7	6	16	13
Portishead	—	2	1	1	10	—	1	1	2	1	1	14
Shepton Mallet	1	2	1	2	1	—	1	—	5	12	10	18
Street	1	4	9	17	7	—	1	1	—	2	6	10
Taunton	22	52	15	21	21	—	6	2	6	29	20	107
Watchet	—	—	1	2	11	—	—	—	—	—	2	4
Wellington	1	3	6	15	7	—	1	—	4	—	3	5
Wells	—	—	—	—	10	—	1	—	1	1	3	6
Weston-super-Mare	11	38	16	15	12	—	7	1	6	2	26	40
Yeovil	17	12	5	7	36	—	9	4	65	120	11	49
Totals :	130	212	98	117	196	1	40	19	113	202	144	395
County Totals :	223	450	208	203	403	2	79	38	224	377	267	747

P — Primary Vaccination

R — Re-Vaccination

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

Number of persons who received a course of primary vaccination (two injections of Salk vaccine, three injections of quadruple vaccine or three doses of Oral vaccine) during the year 1963

PRIMARY COURSES

District	Children born 1963		Children born 1962		Children born 1943-61		Young persons born 1933-42		Persons under 40 years of age & Priority Groups	
	Salk	Oral	Salk	Oral	Salk	Oral	Salk	Oral	Salk	Oral
RURAL										
Axbridge	11	18	8	234	8	157	—	31	1	29
Bathavon	3	25	4	144	7	118	—	9	1	14
Bridgwater	2	28	10	140	6	94	1	15	2	28
Chard	—	22	2	84	11	45	1	5	8	9
Clutton	—	36	19	143	34	123	—	20	12	25
Dulverton	—	3	—	19	2	25	—	5	2	4
Frome	—	7	1	51	2	49	1	4	—	4
Langport	14	35	9	87	1	29	6	11	5	9
Long Ashton	—	35	40	270	5	225	—	67	1	80
Shepton Mallet	—	4	3	55	3	55	1	10	—	16
Taunton	1	21	2	138	2	107	2	25	—	18
Wellington	—	6	—	51	1	39	—	4	1	7
Wells	14	16	15	77	1	38	1	7	1	12
Williton	1	15	11	87	—	38	—	7	—	15
Wincanton	—	18	2	156	1	68	—	24	3	36
Yeovil	1	43	3	246	1	105	1	25	1	28
Totals :	47	332	129	1982	85	1315	14	269	38	334
URBAN										
Bridgwater	3	38	8	219	2	87	—	6	—	8
Burnham	29	5	44	60	2	31	—	4	2	3
Chard	—	12	3	60	—	12	—	—	—	1
Clevedon	—	29	—	125	—	50	—	23	—	21
Crewkerne	—	12	—	42	—	16	—	—	—	4
Frome	—	40	—	112	—	65	—	16	—	19
Glastonbury	—	5	—	62	—	41	—	2	—	10
Ilminster	—	2	—	34	10	17	4	—	3	2
Keynsham	—	—	17	83	6	44	1	14	—	10
Mirdehead	21	6	15	43	—	14	—	5	—	5
Norton Radstock	—	36	2	149	3	44	—	5	1	5
Portishead	—	8	—	70	—	90	—	12	—	10
Shepton Mallet	—	—	2	21	—	35	1	4	2	4
Street	—	24	1	80	—	20	—	4	—	16
Taunton	1	37	24	278	5	165	7	26	—	34
Watchet	—	6	—	34	—	4	—	2	—	3
Wellington	—	14	1	81	11	31	—	1	6	4
Wells	27	2	37	57	1	20	—	4	—	15
Weston-super-Mare	28	44	17	296	7	165	4	25	5	24
Yeovil	—	53	15	263	2	73	1	14	1	12
Totals :	109	373	186	2169	49	1024	18	167	20	210
County Totals :	156	705	315	4151	134	2339	32	436	58	544

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

Reinforcements, 1963

District	Number of persons (all groups) who rec'd a third Salk injection or fourth injection of quadruple vaccine	Number of children of 5 yrs. but under 12 yrs. who rec'd a fourth Salk injection or fifth injection of quadruple vaccine	Number of persons (all groups) who rec'd a reinforcing dose of Oral vaccine following two Salk injections	Number of children of 5 yrs., but under 12 yrs. who rec'd a dose of Oral vaccine after three Salk injections or 3 Oral doses or 2 Salk injs. plus 2 Oral doses
RURAL				
Axbridge	33	3	82	385
Bathavon	17	13	47	130
Bridgwater	33	3	36	121
Chard	49	54	25	23
Clutton	127	4	29	280
Dulverton	36	11	7	19
Frome	4	7	27	90
Langport	4	6	38	100
Long Ashton	22	5	96	494
Shepton Mallet	4	1	42	160
Taunton	42	1	32	135
Wellington	4	2	11	33
Wells	6	—	29	238
Williton	14	—	32	146
Wincanton	15	2	82	125
Yeovil	36	5	75	301
Totals :	446	117	690	2,780
URBAN				
Bridgwater	10	2	30	131
Burnham	30	23	19	37
Chard	3	50	5	4
Clevedon	9	3	27	491
Crewkerne	2	20	9	5
Frome	2	—	39	44
Glastonbury	2	—	15	16
Ilminster	53	17	10	13
Keynsham	53	40	33	92
Minehead	3	1	14	42
Norton Radstock	13	11	47	312
Portishead	—	—	17	167
Shepton Mallet	—	—	21	73
Street	10	—	13	64
Taunton	94	16	74	516
Watchet	—	—	15	32
Wellington	15	3	13	40
Wells	1	—	9	208
Weston-s-Mare	14	5	68	395
Yeovil	48	2	42	239
Totals :	362	193	520	2,921
County Totals :	808	310	1,210	5,701

AMBULANCE SERVICE

GENERAL

In my last report I made the comment that "for the first time since 1957 there has been a slight drop in the total number of patients carried". I added, however, that there was no indication of stabilisation and suggested that the slight decrease was only temporary. This view has been borne out in 1963 when the total number of patients conveyed rose by 8.5% compared with 1962. The mileage, however, rose by slightly under 3%. Whilst the rise has been an overall one it has been partly due to the increasing day hospital care, which has made it necessary to increase staff at certain stations, and to vary the tours of duty and so lengthen the period of peak working.

At the beginning of the year the Service was confronted with what was, perhaps, its greatest challenge since the introduction of the National Health Service in 1948. For nearly three months the County suffered some of the worst winter weather conditions in living memory, and for long periods many roads were almost impassable. Despite this, the Service continued to fulfil almost all its obligations. During the March quarter the number of patients carried compared with 1962 fell by only 4.3% and the mileage by 5.3%. We were indebted to farmers and others for the help given. On two occasions a sledge was used to take patients over a short distance of the journey. On only one occasion did the Service find it necessary to request the help of a helicopter. The personnel, I feel, are to be congratulated.

In previous reports I have referred to the delays which result from congestion on the roads, and there seems little likelihood of any improvement. This increases the need for additional staff and vehicles.

Early in the year the County Council gave notice to the St. John Ambulance Brigade to terminate the Agency arrangements on 31st March, 1964. As reported last year, the voluntary assistance given at Ambulance Stations has continued to weaken slightly but it is hoped that after the termination of the Agency, as with certain of the stations previously run by the British Red Cross Society, volunteers will continue to assist in the running of the Ambulance Service.

The arrangements for the provision of the Obstetric Flying Squad for the South Somerset area under which the Ambulance Service provides the transport, continues to work well and has improved the efficiency of this important service.

1962	Patients	Mileage	Average Distance travelled per patient (miles)
Ambulances	59,614	533,983	8.96
Sitting-case Ambulances	99,156	763,756	7.70
Cars	20,430	123,420	6.04
Totals — Service Vehicles	179,200	1,421,159	7.93
Hospital Car Service ...	5,237	19,334	3.69
Private Hire	49	680	13.9
All Vehicles	184,486	1,441,173	7.81
1963			
Ambulances	70,302	575,430	8.19
Sitting-case Ambulances	106,976	778,644	7.29
Cars	20,946	121,438	5.80
Totals — Service Vehicles	198,224	1,475,512	7.44
Hospital Car Service ...	1,865	8,087	4.34
Private Hire	19	267	14.16
All Vehicles	200,108	1,483,866	7.42

CONTROL

The Group arrangements continue unchanged except that the period of manning the ambulance station and control at Yeovil has been extended to 11.0 p.m. daily. The work of control coupled with its administrative requirements has greatly increased, and is made more difficult by traffic delays.

The additional ex-Directory telephone installed last year has proved most useful and has eased the pressure on the two lines used for normal incoming messages. The replacement of the fixed and mobile radio equipment to meet the requirements of the G.P.O. specification has continued and will be completed during 1964, thus complying with the Postmaster General's instructions.

The installation of this new equipment enabled us to complete the division of the County for radio purposes. The southern half of the County composed of the Taunton and Yeovil Groups is now operating on Channel 2, and the Northern half of the County composed of the Weston-super-Mare and Glastonbury Groups on Channel 1, which is the original and adjacent frequency. This change has virtually doubled the "air space" and has thus enabled the Service to handle the increasing number of calls. The following table shows the number of vehicles now equipped with radio:—

Control Area	Ambulances	Dual-purpose Sitting-case Ambulances	Cars	TOTAL
Group 1 Taunton	12	11	1	24
Group 2 Weston-super-Mare	13	8	2	23
Group 3 Glastonbury	10	10	3	23
Group 4 Yeovil	4	6	1	11
TOTALS	39	35	7	81

STAFF

During the year it has been necessary to employ more driver/attendants at the following Stations:—

Shepton Mallet	1
Taunton	2
Yeovil	2
Glastonbury	1
Highbridge	3
Weston-super-Mare	1

Despite unsatisfactory accommodation the Keynsham Station is working well and is now managing to provide a 24-hour service by day-time manning at the Hospital and night-manning on a call-out basis from home.

The authorised establishment at 31st December, 1963, was as follows:—

Ambulance Station	Station Officers	Sub-Officers	Senior Drivers	Driver Attendants	TOTALS
SOMERSET COUNTY COUNCIL					
Castle Cary	—	—	1	3	4
Churchill	—	—	1	4	5
Ilminster	—	—	1	2	3
Keynsham	—	—	1	4	5
Shepton Mallet	1	2	—	6	9
Taunton	—	5	—	19	24
Yeovil	1	2	—	11	14
ST. JOHN AMBULANCE BRIGADE					
Bridgwater	—	—	1	6	7
Clevedon	—	—	2	7	9
Frome	—	—	1	2	3
Glastonbury	1	2	—	7	10
Highbridge	—	—	—	3	3
Minehead	1	—	—	7	8
Portishead	—	—	1	2	3
Norton-Radstock	—	—	1	7	8
Wells	—	—	—	1	1
Wellington	—	—	—	1	1
Weston-super-Mare	1	4	—	17	22
TOTALS	5	15	10	109	139

VEHICLES

To cope with expected increasing demands on the Service and to overcome traffic delays, it is probable that more ambulances will be needed. We now hope to obtain a total mileage per vehicle of approximately 200,000, and with a total annual mileage of one-and-a-half million, the annual replacements necessary are unlikely to fall below 8. During the year 1963 only 6 new vehicles were delivered, as follows:—

- 2 Large Karrier Ambulances at Norton-Radstock and Weston-super-Mare
- 2 Bedford Sitting-case Ambulances at Portishead and Keynsham
- 2 Ford Zephyr Cars at Glastonbury and Yeovil.

The experience gained during the winter of 1962/63 suggested that an ambulance more suited to exceptional conditions should be available in each of the Group areas, and so three specially constructed ambulances on the Landrover Chassis are already on order for three of the four Groups.

The authorised establishment of vehicles at 31st December, 1963, was as follows:—

Ambulance Station	Ambulances	Dual-Purpose Sitting-Case Ambulances	Cars	TOTALS
SOMERSET COUNTY COUNCIL				
Castle Cary	1	2	—	3
Churchill	1	2	—	3
Ilminster	2	1	—	3
Keynsham	1	2	—	3
Shepton Mallet	2	3	1	6
Taunton	6	5	1	12
Yeovil	3	4	1	8
TOTALS	16	19	3	38
ST. JOHN AMBULANCE BRIGADE				
Bridgwater	2	2	—	4
Cheddar	1	—	—	1
Clevedon	4	2	—	6
Frome	1	—	1	2
Glastonbury	2	3	1	6
Highbridge	2	1	—	3
Minehead	2	2	—	4
Norton-Radstock	3	2	—	5
Portishead	1	1	—	2
Wedmore	1	—	—	1
Wellington	—	1	—	1
Wells	1	—	—	1
Weston-super-Mare	5	2	2	9
TOTALS	25	16	4	45
GRAND TOTALS	41	35	7	83

HOSPITAL CAR SERVICE AND HIRE

Although the use of the Hospital Car Service has fallen it still performs a valuable function in a few parts of the County. Hired cars are now used very rarely.

RAIL TRAVEL

Once again, the total number of patients carried by rail shows an increase on the previous year. So far, the reorganisation of the rail services has not seriously affected the arrangements for sending patients from the County by rail. Some difficulties, however, are now being experienced in finding suitable trains for stretcher patients and so the road portion of the journey, in many instances, is greater.

We are indebted to the volunteers who so willingly act as escorts with patients sent by rail.

The details of patients conveyed are as follows:—

	Stretcher		Sitting		TOTALS	
	Patients	Mileage	Patients	Mileage	Patients	Mileage
1962	213	25,875	815	61,109	1,028	86,984
1963	173	21,657	959	71,341	1,132	92,998

Total equivalent road mileages:—

1961	—	approximately 157,000
1962	—	approximately 174,000
1963	—	approximately 186,000

PREMISES

During the year new ambulance stations were opened at Yeovil (19th April); Weston-super-Mare (4th November); and Bridgwater (9th December). The planning of the new ambulance station for Keynsham is well advanced and it is hoped that building will start soon. There have been difficulties in finding sites for new stations at Minehead and Shepton Mallet, but it is thought that these will soon be overcome.

CHIROPODY

This scheme was introduced in 1960 to provide a chiropody service for the elderly, physically handicapped, and expectant mothers, and was implemented by arranging with private chiropodists to treat patients sponsored by the County Council either in their own surgeries, or by home visits in the case of those who are unable to travel to see the chiropodists. In addition, certain clubs and old people's associations in the County who were already, or who were willing to hold chiropody sessions in connection with their normal meetings, were helped financially and in this way a large number of elderly people have benefitted.

This scheme was very slow in expanding, mainly because the fees approved by the Whitley Council for chiropody work were too low to make them acceptable to private chiropodists, but changes in the level of fees in 1962, and again in 1963, make them now compare favourably with those obtainable in private practice, and consequently most chiropodists are fully prepared to work within the County scheme. Because of this the indications towards the end of the year were that the chiropody scheme is beginning to expand quite rapidly, and we expect that in the following year a much higher number of treatments will be given.

The following table gives figures for the last three years:—

Year	No. of Chiropodists accepting patients	New cases	No. of treatments given		Total
			Surgery	Domiciliary	
1961	18	923	9,013	1,762	10,775
1962	26	790	10,730	2,168	12,898
1963	28	1,516	12,089	4,067	16,156

The patient's contribution towards the cost of treatment continues at 2s. 6d. per treatment, and the majority of patients have monthly treatments. Persons needing treatment are asked to obtain a certificate from their general practitioner, who ensures that there is medical need before making a recommendation, and this has helped to limit the service to those for whom it was intended. Apart from expectant mothers and handicapped persons, there are about 90,000 elderly persons of pensionable age in the County and it will, therefore, be readily appreciated that the potential number requiring chiropody treatment is likely to be a high one and that providing funds are available a fairly considerable expansion of the service can be expected.

Chiropodists now have to be state registered and the Ministry of Health is publishing shortly a Register. Only chiropodists whose names appear in this Register are being used in connection with the County scheme and clubs and organisations who receive grants from the County Council to assist them in providing chiropody for their members must ensure that the chiropodist they use is state registered. At the request of the County Welfare Committee chiropodists are continuing to attend various Homes and Institutions on a sessional basis.

This chiropody scheme is one which provides considerable benefit to the elderly, and expenditure in this way is well worthwhile. I am grateful to the organisers of the old people's clubs who put in so much voluntary work and who have co-operated with us so willingly.

PREVENTION, CARE AND AFTER-CARE TUBERCULOSIS

Dr. C. de W. Kitcat, Senior Consultant Chest Physician, has provided information for the following report:—

NOTIFICATIONS

These at 128 show an increase on the 1962 total of 105, though they are well below the 1961 figure of 147. It is to be expected that the number of notifications will vary from year to year and temporary increases will occur from time to time.

PARTICULARS OF PULMONARY CASES NOTIFIED:—

Year	New Cases Notified	Transfers from other Authorities	Total	Contacts Seen
1958	216	79	295	1,583
1959	185	72	257	1,876
1960	158	61	219	1,430
1961	147	59	206	1,348
1962	105	28	133	1,012
1963	128	35	163	1,161

TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFICATIONS — 1963 — BY AGE GROUPS:—

Age Groups	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F
0 — 11	—	—	—	—
2 — 5	1	1	1	1
5 — 10	1	2	1	1
10 — 15	2	3	1	—
15 — 20	2	4	—	1
20 — 25	2	9	1	—
25 — 35	6	8	1	4
35 — 45	13	8	3	1
45 — 55	11	6	1	5
55 — 65	25	5	—	1
65 and Over	12	7	1	2
TOTALS	75	53	10	16

POST MORTEM NOTIFICATIONS

There were 8 cases of tuberculosis during 1963 which were not formally notified before death. These cases were in two categories, as follows:—

(1) Diagnosed after Post Mortem examination:—

3 male (pulmonary) aged 57, 69 and 77.

(2) Diagnosed on a doctor's certificate:—

Pulmonary

2 males (ages 56 and 60)

Non-Pulmonary2 males (ages 43 and 77)
1 female (aged 61)

CHEST HOSPITALS

TAUNTON CHEST HOSPITAL. Consequent upon the closing of Quantock Chest Hospital, the only beds for tuberculous cases are in the Taunton Isolation Hospital, where the improvements to the buildings mentioned in my last report have greatly improved the lot of the patients and staff. The Tuberculosis Unit there consists of two wards each with separate toilet facilities — Ward 5 (previously known as the Sanatorium Wing) containing 15 beds and due to staff shortages adapted for the nursing of seriously ill male and female patients, and Ward 4 which contains 8 beds and is used for the treatment of the least seriously ill cases of either sex, whichever is in the majority. These are generally admitted while still infectious for a period of 4 to 6 weeks, after which if non-infectious, they are discharged to continue treatment at home and often after a further month to return to work. The bed complement of 23 beds has so far proved adequate for our needs and on the 31st December, 1963, 19 beds were unoccupied. This figure however is excessive and the average occupancy for the year was 14.

Admissions for the year:	Men 44	Women 21	Total 65
Discharges for the year:	Men 39	Women 25	Total 64
Deaths during the year:	Men 9	Women —	Total 9

OTHER HOSPITALS

The number of T.B. Patients admitted to other hospitals during the year was 42.

CHEST CLINICS

The new cases seen at the chest clinics numbered 4,148 and were classified as follows:—

Pulmonary Tuberculosis

T.B. Negative	...	...	...	72	
T.B. Positive, stage 1	...	...	...	9	
T.B. Positive, stage 2	...	...	...	32	
T.B. Positive, stage 3	...	...	...	<u>5</u>	118

Non-Pulmonary

Bones and Joints	...	...	...	—
Abdominal	...	...	...	3	
Other organs	...	...	...	5	
Peripheral glands	...	...	...	<u>8</u>	16
Not Tuberculous	...	...	...	...	4,014
					<u>4,148</u>

Chest clinic attendances have been as follows:—

Clinic	1961	1962	1963
Bath (County)	923	770	713
Bridgwater	4,048	3,566	3,458
Chard	691	821	739
Clevedon	461	501	607
Frome	228	128	126
Minehead	1,711	1,643	1,298
Paulton	244	419	421
Radstock	459	193	226
Shepton Mallet	305	221	192
Taunton	6,555	4,943	4,216
Wells	342	547	580
Weston-super-Mare	3,689	3,244	2,818
Yeovil	2,793	2,469	2,597
Totals	22,449	19,465	17,991

In general, throughout the County, the decrease in the number of cases of tubercle and contacts coming to the chest clinics has continued, although the slight increase in the disease in some areas is reflected in their clinic attendance figures. The regular visit of Mass Radiography Units to towns and factories, the B.C.G. inoculation of school children in their fourteenth year, and the careful screening and observation of contacts of tuberculous patients all play a part in suppressing the disease but we cannot afford to relax our efforts if it is to become a thing of the past and the large number of immigrants coming into this country provides a constant source of danger to tubercle being finally eradicated.

MASS RADIOGRAPHY

Year	Numbers examined		Active cases found	Active cases per thousand examined		
	Male	Female		Male	Female	Total
1959	14,682	9,528	24	0.82	1.20	0.99
1960	20,196	14,354	25	0.74	0.69	0.72
1961	10,833	8,870	6	0.27	0.33	0.30
1962	24,816	19,075	11	0.32	0.16	0.25
1963	13,723	8,330	10	0.58	0.24	0.45

In addition to the above, there were 17 cases (14 male and 3 female) with inactive tuberculosis.

TUBERCULOSIS DEATH RATES

The death rate for the year was 0.056 compared with 0.052 in 1962.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

GENERAL

The development of the Mental Health Services under the Ten-Year Plan has proceeded steadily and reflects the emphasis on community care envisaged by recent mental health legislation. The plan is, in general, integrated with the Hospital Services so as to provide comprehensive and expanding services necessary to promote mental health in Somerset.

The decentralisation of the Social Work Services into five areas was completed during the year. The new arrangement, together with an increase in field staff, will enable the Local Health Authority to meet the increasing need for social worker help in relation to persons who will be cared for in the community or with regard to whom assistance in connection with admission to hospital is necessary.

TRAINING CENTRES

There has been substantial progress with the capital works schemes which will provide increased accommodation in Junior Training Centres and new Adult Training Centres. The remodelling of the existing Junior Centre and the provision of an adult unit at Radstock is in hand, and the projects for new junior centres at Bridgwater and at Taunton and the expansion of the Weston-super-Mare Junior Training Centre (which is meanwhile transferred to temporary premises) are under way.

There has been an interesting development in connection with the work undertaken by pupils over the age of 16 years. In addition to the usual Training Centre activities, contract work, such as tagging paper bags, dethorning sheepskins, stripping rubber, assembling ball point pens, stringing display cards and stamping doctors' prescription pads, has been arranged. At Yeovil, where no contract work has been obtained, County owned furniture and equipment is repaired, and if necessary rebuilt, by the adult male trainees and a few of the female trainees are employed part-time at the hostel and in the kitchen. Pupils are paid for the work they do on a share basis. These arrangements will receive added impetus when Adult Training Centres, with facilities for an increased range of work, are available.

Hostel accommodation for children has continued to be provided at the Yeovil Training Centre Hostel (24 places) and at St. Margaret's Holiday Home, Weston-super-Mare (5 places). The Yeovil Hostel is also used for short-stay cases during part of the time when the Training Centre is closed.

The following table shows the number of pupils at Training Centres as at 31st December, 1963:—

Centre	Registered Pupils				Total
	Under 16 years		Over 16 years		
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Bridgwater	23	7	11	7	48
Glastonbury	13	3	11	7	34
Lopen	3	3	6	6	18
Radstock	20	9	16	12	57
Taunton	20	7	10	15	52
Weston-super-Mare	28	21	11	17	77
Yeovil Adult and Junior	20	11	9	9	49
Bath (Bath L.H.A.)	1	1	4	1	7
Totals	128	62	78	74	342

HOME TEACHING

The appointment of a qualified home teacher has made possible the extension of the home teaching service to include a group of pupils living in a very isolated part of the County. The results are promising and will provide a foundation for further development of the work.

RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION

The Cliffe View Hostel at Cheddar has continued to meet the need for the accommodation of female mentally disordered persons who could not otherwise be suitably provided for in the community. There are at present 12 residents, the majority being in daily employment.

As a result of the close co-operation between the Local Health Authority and Hospital Authorities, there has been a steady increase in the number of mentally infirm persons boarded out in voluntary or private homes. During the year 40 such grants were made towards the cost of residential accommodation.

DAY CENTRES AND SOCIAL CLUBS

The social work carried out by the Mental Welfare Officer staff in connection with the Ivor House Social Health Centre and Day Hospital at Taunton has increased during the year, and this co-operation will be extended to the Day Centre and Social Club shortly to be established at Penn House, Yeovil.

The Local Health Authority has continued to give financial help and to be associated with the work of voluntary social clubs for mentally disordered persons at Bridgwater, Frome, Midsomer Norton, Minehead, Shepton Mallet, Taunton, Wincanton, Weston-super-Mare and Yeovil.

HOME VISITING

The home visiting of mentally ill or subnormal persons forms an important part of the social work service. The number of such persons at the end of the year was 1,133, and a summary of the visits paid by Mental Welfare Officers is given below:—

Guardianship	Aftercare	Other	Total Visits
679	8,237	5,198	14,114

GENERAL STATISTICS

At 31st December, 1963 the number of patients awaiting admission to hospital for the subnormal was 18, 13 being urgent cases.

Temporary residential care to relieve the family was arranged for 104 patients — 52 were accommodated in hospitals under Circular 5/52; 27 in Local Authority residential accommodation, and 25 at St. Margaret's Holiday Home, Weston-super-Mare.

The number of mentally disordered patients referred to the Local Health Authority during the year was as follows:—

Mentally Ill	Psychopathic	Subnormal	Severely Subnormal	Total
1,756	8	62	40	1,866

As shown by the following table admissions to hospital have continued to be mainly on an informal basis:—

Informal	Sections 25/29	Sections 26/60	Total Admissions
620	315	82	1,017

The number of patients under guardianship at 31st December, 1963 was 74, of whom 69 were severely subnormal. This reflects the continuing trend towards informal community care in cases where the control of guardianship is not necessary.

STAFFING

SOCIAL WORKERS. The field staff at 31st December, 1963, consisted of one Superintendent Mental Welfare Officer, 21 Mental Welfare Officers, and two Trainee Mental Welfare Officers. One officer has been awarded the Mental Health Certificate on completion of a Psychiatric Social Worker Course of the University of London. Two officers have been seconded to University Courses leading to the Mental Health Certificate. One trainee has been seconded to a full-time University Course leading to the Diploma in Social Administration and another has joined a two year training course leading to the National Social Work Certificate.

TRAINING CENTRES STAFF. The staff of Training Centres has continued to be maintained generally on the basis of one teacher for every ten pupils. Two assistant staff, seconded to the Bristol and Birmingham (adult) Courses respectively of the National Association for Mental Health obtained the qualifying Diploma during 1963. There are six Trainee Teachers, one of whom has proceeded to the Diploma Course for teachers of the mentally handicapped; three are at present in their second year and two in the first year of their in-service training under the Council's approved scheme of training.

WATER SUPPLIES

The process of regrouping Water Undertakings has taken place quite smoothly and in the Northern part of the County the Bristol Waterworks Company have taken over all the Undertakings with the exception of Radstock, Bathavon R.D.C. and the private Water Undertaking at Downside Abbey. With regard to the remainder of the County two Boards were formed, the West Somerset Water Board which assumed responsibility for two Boroughs, three Urban and five Rural Districts as from the 1st April, 1963, and the Wessex Water Board which concluded arrangements for the transfer of a similar number of Authorities and became operative on the 1st October, 1963.

The Winter of 1963 will be remembered for many years to come. All records were broken and likewise many water mains. It was the coldest in the English lowlands for 223 years and the heaviest snowfall for around 150 years and as is well known temperatures were comparable to those obtaining in countries more adapted to these climatic conditions.

The Bristol Waterworks Company kept a very accurate record of their trials and tribulations and the following is an extract from a report circulated by the Company in February, 1963 —

“During the 76 days of ‘Operation Frostbite II’ 668 burst mains were repaired — compared with only 400 during the whole of World War II, including the Blitz!

“In the Company’s records there is a list of the authorities and firms who helped to mount the operation. The acknowledgements listed read like citations for honours gained in the field of battle: ‘for providing a compressor for Chew Valley Lake at very short notice, and for getting it to the site under almost impossible conditions’.

“And indeed it WAS a battleground, with the weather as the implacable enemy”.

The remainder of the County suffered in like manner but each Authority/Board dealt with its own problems.

In 1944 the Ministry of Housing and Local Government introduced the Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Act which formed part of the Government’s post-war reconstruction programme. At that time a sum of £15,000,000, later increased to £75,000,000, was set aside to assist schemes, on the termination of hostilities, for the provision and improvement of water supplies and sewerage facilities in the rural localities of England and Wales.

Now that the three Water Undertakings in Somerset have virtually concluded their takeover arrangements for the water supplies in the County, with one or two minor exceptions, it is interesting to see what progress has been made since the introduction of the Act concerning the provision of piped supplies in the rural parts of the County.

The following sums approved include the cost of the provision of mains, reservoirs and other miscellaneous items of equipment to which the County Council have given grant aid.

District	New post-war mains and replacements (Miles of water main)	Total estimated cost of schemes £
Axbridge	25	95,791
Bathavon	25	84,850
Bridgwater	42	234,775
Chard	16	125,380
Clutton	22	109,575
Dulverton	8	56,473
Frome	36	222,902
Langport	51	346,345
Long Ashton	19	120,152
Shepton Mallet	12	322,318
Taunton	35	150,000
Wellington	48	401,175
Wells	37	270,000
Williton	45	469,194
Wincanton	70	451,582
Yeovil	50	974,511
	541	£4,435,023

The three Water Authorities very kindly provided the following statistics:—

	Population directly supplied (excluding bulk water)	Average daily consumption (million galls.)	Length of mains (in miles)
Bristol Waterworks Company	844,000	48.4	2,773
Wessex Water Board	120,000	7.5	752
West Somerset Water Board	138,904	8.8	793 (March, 1963)

With regard to the quality of the water this could be generally described as satisfactory and there would also appear to have been an improvement so far as quantity was concerned. The shortages which occurred during the January and February frosts have, of course, been ignored as these were extremely abnormal conditions.

More detailed information concerning the Water Undertakings in Somerset is set out later in this report.

FLUORIDATION OF WATER SUPPLIES

In Circular No. 28/62 the Minister of Health intimated that he was "ready to approve the making of arrangements with Water Undertakers for adding fluorine to water supplies which are deficient in it naturally". Subsequently Circular 12/63 gave general approval to all local Health Authorities under Section 28 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, to arrange for the addition of fluoride to public water supplies known to be naturally deficient to a level appropriate for the prevention of dental decay.

The County Council, in order to study the problems involved, appointed a Working

Party who, after consultations with various Associations and other technical sources of information, finally produced a full report on the subject with a recommendation that arrangements be made with the Water Undertakers supplying water in the County for the addition of fluoride to such waters to bring the level of fluoride therein up to one part per million. The report was considered by the County Council at their meeting in December but the recommendations of the Working Party was not adopted.

The following is an extract from the Annual Report of the County Analyst —

“A second survey was carried out on the natural fluorine content of the drinking waters. Fluorine is present in all waters, even if it is only a minute trace in most, and the results made an interesting comparison with those of the 1951 survey. Clearly, most sources are remarkably constant in this respect, the results being identical, in some cases, with those of 12 years ago, or showing very little difference indeed.

“The majority contain less than 0.1 part per million. In 1951, this proportion was 68.6 per cent of the 185 samples and, in 1963, it was 78.4 per cent of the 143 waters analysed. A further 13.5 per cent do at present contain between 0.1 and 0.2 part per million and only one sample, in the remaining 8.1 per cent, was found to exceed 0.5 part per million fluorine”.

BOROUGH, URBAN AND RURAL WATER SUPPLY SCHEMES

The progress made by Borough, Urban and Rural Authorities in connection with schemes of water supply was obviously negligible in view of the impending takeover by the Water Boards. Major works completed by the Authorities prior to takeover comprised —

MINEHEAD URBAN

Construction of a 250,000 gallon service reservoir and provision of an 8" trunk main to reservoir and from reservoir to Butlins Camp, £43,000.

WILLITON RURAL

Provision of main from Willet to Bilbrook, (£40,905), and from Clatworthy to Brompton Ralph, (£16,202), Contracts 11 and 13 of the main Clatworthy Scheme.

REGROUPING OF WATER UNDERTAKINGS

(a) West Somerset Area.

The West Somerset Water Board Order, 1962, came into operation on the 1st April, 1963. Details of this Board's area are as follows:—

<u>Boroughs and Urbans</u>	<u>Rurals</u>
Bridgwater	Bridgwater
Minehead	Dulverton
Taunton	Taunton
Watchet	Wellington
Wellington	Williton

(b) Wessex Area.

The Wessex Water Board Order, 1963, came into operation on the 1st October, 1963. Details of this Board's area are as follows:—

Boroughs and Urbans

Chard
Crewkerne
Ilminster
Sherborne
Yeovil

Rurals

Chard
Langport
Sherborne
Wincanton
Yeovil

(c) Mendip Area (Bristol Waterworks Company).

The situation in connection with this Company's Undertaking has not changed since 1962. Some very useful information, however, has been provided by the Company in connection with the work carried out by them during 1963. For example they mention that a section of 15/18" diameter main from Cheddar to Rodney Stoke forming part of the North Somerset Augmentation Scheme was completed and that the succeeding main extension from Rodney Stoke to Wells was commenced. Again a new pumping station with increased capacity, viz. 17,000,000 gallons per day, was built at Axbridge as a replacement for the older stations at Cheddar and Axbridge and that the supply to Redhill was supplemented by a cross connection at Felton which involved the laying of a main across Winford Common. Including the above the Company laid a total of 17 miles of main in the County during 1963.

The following are extracts from reports very kindly provided by the Engineer and Manager of the respective Water Boards —

“WESSEX WATER BOARDENGINEERING PROPOSALS

The following proposals deal only with the period up to 1st April, 1970.

(a) Central District

The boreholes at Lake Farm, near Thornford, now supply up to 0.7 m.g.d. to the Sherborne and Wincanton Rural Districts. It is recommended that permission be sought to abstract up to 2.0 m.g.d. and that arrangements be made to carry out test pumping during the coming autumn. This source is located comparatively close to Yeovil and on the side of the town where a lot of future development is likely to take place. A trunk main will be laid from Lake via a new 2.6 m.g. service reservoir at the top of Babylon Hill to the Lyde Road area and into the existing distribution system, with a branch northwards to provide an alternative feed into the rural distribution mains near Mudford. Some lengths of distribution mains in Yeovil will be duplicated or replaced, new boosters will be installed at Mudford Road, and the Mudford Road and Preston water towers will be repaired. A new main will be laid from Coker Hill reservoir to serve the Helena Road / West Coker Road area. All this work is urgently required to overcome inadequacies in the existing distribution system as evidenced by the large number of complaints which are received at Head Office every week, and to cope with the maximum demand.

Sutton Bingham sludge disposal scheme has been approved by the Board and will be completed as soon as possible, but it seems likely that urgent supply works both in Yeovil and Chard may mean that the scheme cannot be completed until 1966. The pumping plant at Cattistock will be replaced and arranged for automatic operation. As the demand rises, further storage will be necessary in the rural district and this will probably be sited at Odcombe as a 1 m.g. expansion to the existing service reservoir. A new main is needed in the Long Load area from Martock and an extension to Long Sutton will improve supplies and provide a useful cross connection between the Central and Western Districts.

(b) Western District

Assuming that powers to increase the abstraction at Pole Rue to 1.0 m.g.d. are

obtained, the third borehole will be brought into use and a spare pump set purchased to enable the existing sets to be removed for maintenance. A new trunk main will then be laid from Combe St. Nicholas to supply Chard. Existing supplies in Chard are already inadequate, and this main is urgently required to improve the present supply and to cater for future demand. An additional service reservoir with a capacity of 0.75 m.g. is required at Chard, and it is hoped that it will be completed by 1968.

Difficulties in Crewkerne have been staved off for the time being by the link with Sutton Bingham water from the Central District. However, if Crewkerne develops as anticipated, this link will soon be inadequate and in any case the Central District has no water to spare. A new feed to Crewkerne will be provided from Tatworth. Water will be pumped to a new 1 m.g. reservoir on Windwhistle Ridge, thence gravitating to another new 0.5 m.g. reservoir on the outskirts of Crewkerne, probably alongside the existing reservoir at Maiden Beech where land is available. A trunk main between these new reservoirs will have branches feeding Cudworth, Cricket Malherbie, Chillington, Roundham, Hinton St. George and Dinnington, with an additional feed into Merriott which is at present supplied at the end of a long tenuous main from Pole Rue. This will enable the Roundham source to be abandoned and end the bulk water supply arrangements with private supply systems in the area.

Ilminster has inadequate storage which gives rise to shortages at times of peak demand and an 0.25 m.g. extension is required adjoining the existing reservoir at Pretwood. Curry Rivel is served by a long main from Pole Rue and there is very little local storage. A new 0.5 m.g. service reservoir at Red Hill will safeguard a large area. Other comparatively small service reservoirs totalling about 0.5 m.g. will probably be required in the rural areas, but a more detailed analysis will be required before suitable sites can be selected.

The trunk main from Compton Durville to Langport and One Elm Reservoir is in poor condition in places and limits the output of the Compton Durville works; sections will be relaid or duplicated and it should then be possible to abandon the Long Sutton source.

In the extreme west of the district Wambrook and Whitestaunton have no public water supply and an enquiry has been received from the West Somerset Water Board regarding the cost of affording a supply to Bishopswood. All three places could be served by a combined scheme.

By 1970 it is anticipated that an additional 0.6 m.g.d. will be required. There are several possible ways of providing this extra water, i.e. from springs at Wambrook or from springs or river intake at Cricket St. Thomas, or by increasing the output from the boreholes at Compton Durville. It will not be possible to make a final decision until further information is available.

(c) Eastern District

Generally, the pace of development in this area is slower and the water supply problems less pressing than in the other two. As a result it has received less immediate attention in considering proposals for future requirements and hence these proposals must be considered rather more tentative.

Development of the source at Lake to provide more water for Yeovil has already been mentioned; at the same time as this work is carried out, operation of the whole plant will be made automatic and the difficulties at present encountered with surge on the pumping main to Honeycombe Reservoir will be dealt with.

It is estimated that additional water will be required before 1968 and it is proposed that the borehole at Bradley Head be test pumped in 1966. If the results are satisfactory, a new pumping main will be laid to Corton Ridge Reservoir, and a trunk main

northwards to Castle Cary and Bruton which will allow several small sources of questionable reliability to be abandoned.

Pumping plant at Castleton will be replaced and designed for automatic operation, again doing away with the necessity for full time plant attendants. Storage in the Sherborne area will be augmented by a new 0.5 m.g. service reservoir. A new main is required to feed Tut Hill Reservoir from Long Burton".

"WEST SOMERSET WATER BOARD

Sources

There are 54 separate sources of supply in the Board's area, situated in the three Divisions, as follows:—

Bridgwater Division

The total number of sources is nine, the major sources of which are Ashford, Durleigh and Hawkridge Impounding Reservoirs with a total storage capacity of 412,000,000 gallons. A large area of this Division is supplied from Clatworthy Reservoir. The Reliable Yield of all sources in this Division is 4.04 m.g.d.

Minehead Division

The total number of sources is 25, the major source of which is Nutscale Reservoir, with a storage capacity of 39,000,000 gallons. A considerable area of this Division is supplied with water from the Clatworthy Reservoir. The Reliable Yield of all sources in this Division is 1.30 m.g.p.d.

Taunton Division

The total number of sources is 20, the major sources of which are Clatworthy, Luxhay, Leigh and Blagdon Reservoirs, with a storage capacity of 1,334,000,000 gallons; in addition there are the Otterhead pumped supply from the River Otter, borehole supply Pitt Farm, Wellington. The Reliable Yield of all sources in this Division is 6.74 m.g.p.d.

The total Reliable Yield from all sources in the Board's area is 12.09 m.g.p.d.

Population

The estimated population of the area is 150,736 of which 11,832 are not directly supplied by the Board or a percentage of 7.8. The summer visitor population is estimated at 25,000. Of the 11,832 persons not supplied by Public Water Supplies, over 4,000 are supplied by the Luttrell and National Trust Estates".

Schemes approved under the Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Acts, 1944 – 61 during the year were as follows:—

Rural District	Scheme	Estimated Cost (as submitted) £ s. d.
Bathavon	Whitchurch – Woollard Lane Water Extension ...	700 0 0
Bridgwater	Adsborough – Link Main at West Newton	2,180 0 0
Bridgwater	Chilton Polden – Link Main at Scrubbits Lane ...	1,225 0 0
Long Ashton	Nailsea – Extension of Main at West End	1,269 0 0
Wellington	West Somerset Water Board – Wellington R.D.C. Area (Wiveliscombe Without) – Extension of Main from Langley to Whitefield	2,880 0 0
Williton	Clatworthy Reservoir Scheme – Extension of Mains to Tolland	3,250 0 0
Williton	South Western Parishes – Replacement of defective main at Wootton Courtenay	7,750 0 0
Yeovil	Limington – Duck Lane – Extension	600 0 0
Yeovil	Martock – Extension of Main at Marwin Close ...	550 0 0
Yeovil	Sutton Bingham Reservoir – Repairs to Dam Embankment	5,000 0 0
Yeovil	Yeovil Without – Mudford Road/St. Michael's Avenue – Extension	3,000 0 0
		£28,404 0 0

WATER SAMPLES

Classification of raw and treated water samples submitted for bacteriological and chemical examination:—

	Raw Water				Treated after going into supply			
	Bacteriological		Chemical		Bacteriological		Chemical	
	No. Taken	Satisfactory	No. Taken	Satisfactory	No. Taken	Satisfactory	No. Taken	Satisfactory
Boroughs and Urbans	200	101	47	47	744	726	27	27
Rurals	560	418	99	94	834	768	89	89
Totals	760	519	146	141	1,578	1,494	116	116

The following figures refer to samples taken from well water supplies:—

	Boroughs and Urbans		Rurals	
	No. Taken	Satisfactory	No. Taken	Satisfactory
Bacteriological	49	24	171	55
Chemical	1	1	2	1

Details concerning the substitution of piped supplies for well water and other sources of supply during 1963 were as follows:—

	Boroughs and Urbans	Rurals	Total
Well water	5	139	144
Private source	—	29	29
Other (Springs, etc.)	—	12	12
Wells closed during the year	4	29	33

SEWAGE DISPOSAL

In 1961 the Ministry of Housing and Local Government issued a Circular No. 15/61 which informed all Local Authorities that the basis of grant aiding water and sewage schemes under the Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Acts, 1944/45 were to be reviewed and in the Annual Report for 1961 the reasons for this review were clearly stated.

The Rural District Councils are now beginning to feel the effect of the reduced financial assistance to schemes of Sewerage and Sewage Disposal as grant aid is only forthcoming in cases where new sewers are provided. Headworks and Sewage Disposal Works do not rank for grant aid under the revised procedure.

After various deductions from the total cost of the scheme and other adjustments the Ministry grant is calculated at 35% of the net cost and where the amount exceeds £2,000, half-yearly payments are made for a period of thirty years. Grants less than this amount are by lump sum payment.

Financial particulars of schemes approved during 1963 are set out on Page 55.

BOROUGHES AND URBAN DISTRICTS

BRIDGWATER. Work on the provision of a storm water relief sewer at West Street, Bridgwater, was completed and some progress was made in connection with the provision of a pumping station at East Quay. A draft design for a sewerage scheme at Chilton Street is still under consideration.

BURNHAM-ON-SEA. The Council have dealt with quite a number of schemes during the course of the year, mainly concerned with Housing Estates and development. The Council are, of course, still faced with the problem of the re-sewering of the district which is now estimated to cost £1,000,000.

CHARD. Ministry approval has now been obtained in connection with the scheme to link Holbear with the sewage works and passing through the Industrial Area. The total cost of this work is estimated to be £60,000.

CLEVEDON. This Authority are considering plans for the construction of a main relief sewer which, on present estimates, would amount to £300,000. There has been a suggestion that any proposed works should be linked with the proposals of the Long Ashton Rural District Council.

GLASTONBURY. As mentioned last year the District Council's Consulting Engineers were investigating the question of extending the existing sewage and trade waste plant in order to deal with additional trade waste flows. These investigations are being continued.

KEYNSHAM. Work on the reconstruction of the sewage disposal works including sections of new and reconstructed sewers and pumping stations continues. The estimated cost of this work remains at approximately £283,000. So far as future proposals are concerned these are limited to further extension and reconstruction of sewers for the eastern and western end of the area.

NORTON RADSTOCK. Only minor works were carried out during the year but the Council still propose to proceed with the enlargement and modernisation of the Disposal Works at Radstock and Midsomer Norton. It is estimated that these improvements will cost approximately £116,000.

PORTISHEAD. Approximately fifty per cent of the work on the sewerage of the Nore Park and Redcliffe Bay area is now completed. It is estimated that a sum of £27,000 will be expended on the provision of a new rising main, pumps, etc., for sewerage the area from Bristol Road to Beach Hill with ancillary works in Welly Bottom. New 24" and 42" storm water sewers are to be provided from Coombe Avenue to the rhine across Victoria Square playing fields, (£10,000). In addition the Council are now considering the question of future disposal of sewage from the main town area.

SHEPTON MALLET. Work in connection with the provision of an additional humus tank, alternating double filtration and a fifty per cent increase in filter capacity at an estimated cost of £26,000 was still in progress at the end of the year.

TAUNTON. No new works or improvements were carried out during the year although progress is being made in connection with the provision of the surface water sewer along the Wellington Road, (£15,000), and a new trunk sewer on the Priory Bridge Road, (£75,000). Under future proposals the Council have indicated that "fine screens" are to be provided at Ham Sewage Disposal Works, (£10,000).

WESTON-SUPER-MARE. Considerable progress has again been made in connection with the Council's Main Drainage Scheme — Phase III of the Worle Trunk Sewer having been completed at a cost of approximately £355,000. Work amounting to £286,865 in connection with Phase IV is now in progress. Following completion of this latter Phase the Council propose to proceed with certain improvements to the existing system.

RURAL DISTRICTS

AXBRIDGE. Sewer and sewage disposal work to serve new development and a limited area near the Village centre of Mark was completed at a cost of £3,271. With regard to the Wedmore Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme, estimated cost £49,000, work is still in progress, likewise a small sewer extension at Knightcott, Banwell. Under future proposals the Council have included the following schemes:—

Brean and Berrow (Coastal area)	—	£109,000
Bleadon	—	£ 45,000
Hutton, Banwell and Locking Phase I	—	£ 50,000
Phase II	—	£ 28,000
Sandford, Churchill and Langford	—	—

The estimated cost of this latter scheme is given as approximately £128,000, although it is proposed to deal with Langford as a first priority at an estimated cost of £60,000. All these proposals have been investigated by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

BATHAVON. The sewer extension to serve Ashley Road and New Road, Bathford, which the Council included in their list of priorities was completed during the year. Under future proposals and in order of priority are the re-sewering and provision of new disposal works at Wellow Village, (£19,000), re-sewering, with pumping stations, at New Buildings and Carlingcott, (£12,000), and finally sewerage and sewage disposal schemes for Marksbury, (£13,000) and North Stoke, (£5,000).

BRIDGWATER. The re-sewering of Cannington, in progress at the end of 1962, has now been completed but work is still proceeding in connection with the enlargement and reconstruction of the Cannington Works. This also applies to the Works at Chilton Polden. In order of priority the Council's proposals for the future are concerned with East Huntspill/Woolavington, (£90,000), Shapwick, (£25,000), North Petherton, (£100,000), Nether Stowey, (£60,000) and Middlezoy/Othery (£70,000).

CHARD. As was anticipated at the end of 1962 the Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Schemes for Seavington, Hinton St. George and Lopen, (£72,000), Broadway and Horton, (£55,850) and Donyatt, (£14,600), have now been completed and are in full operation. A start has been made on the modernisation of the Sewage Disposal Works at Tatworth. Preparations are well advanced for a Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme for Combe St. Nicholas, although at Merriott, where modernisation of the Works is most desirable, progress has been delayed pending a more thorough investigation into the source or sources of infiltration water into the sewers. Other schemes to which the Council have given consideration are concerned with Ilton and Stocklinch and within the next five years the modernisation of the Misterton outfall works.

CLUTTON. The Timsbury, Lippiatt Lane Scheme, has now been completed at a cost of £15,176 and work has been started on Stage I of the Chilcompton Scheme, (£66,737). Included in the Council's future proposals programme and in order of priority is the provision of the Timsbury Trunk Sewer to serve Hallatrow and High Littleton, (£190,000), and schemes for the Parishes of Chew Stoke, Farrington Gurney, Publow and Stanton Drew (Pensford Village), Ston Easton, Cameley (Temple Cloud Village) and West Harptree.

DULVERTON. No new works or improvements were carried out during the course of the year, although the Council are still anxious to proceed with schemes for Winsford, (£33,000), and Bridgetown and Exton, (£29,000).

FROME. Work is still proceeding in connection with the scheme of Sewerage and Sewage Disposal for Nunney, (£41,000). There has been no change in the Council's future proposals and in order of priority these cover the Villages of Leigh-on-Mendip, (£48,000), Upton Noble, (£42,000), Wanstrow, (£36,000) and Faulkland, (£32,800).

LANGPORT. In order of priority the District Council's proposals for works of sewerage and sewage disposal concern the Villages of Aller, Barrington, Fivehead, Kingsdon and Pitney. It is anticipated that this work will be completed by the end of 1970 at a cost of £160,000.

LONG ASHTON. The Long Ashton and Dundry Sewerage Scheme for the Bridgewater Road and Barrow Lane areas has now been completed at a cost of £27,067. In addition a small sewer extension to Church Town, Backwell, has been provided. The North Weston, Redcliffe Bay Sewerage Scheme which is a joint scheme with Portishead Urban, (£43,657), and the scheme for the provision of surface water sewers to serve the Whitesfield Road (Back Lane) and Kingshill area, Nailsea, (£38,000), were still in progress at the end of the year. This Authority have a large number of schemes in varying stages of preparation and in order of priority are as follows:—

Approximate Cost

Trunk Sewer Proposals — Trunk sewer with sea outfall to serve Nailsea and other inland Villages. A scheme in connection with these proposals has already been submitted to the Ministry and an Inquiry held

£1,500,000

Approximate CostOther Schemes —

Yatton	— Relief sewer to relieve surcharging of the Yatton sewers. Ministry approval has been received and tenders invited	£20,000
North Weston	— Proposals for abandoning the North Weston area disposal works and pumping flow into Portishead U.D.C. sewers	£ 3,000
Leigh Woods	— Sewerage to Leigh Woods area with discharge into the Bristol sewers	£35,000
Wraxall	— Sewerage to the Sixty Acres area using the now disused Tyntesfield Sewage Works	£15,000
Abbots Leigh	— General scheme of Sewerage and Sewage Disposal	£45,000

SHEPTON MALLET. The reconstruction of the Evercreech Sewage Disposal Works and the provision of a short sewer extension to serve the "Bell Inn" area has now been completed at a cost of £75,000. The sewerage, also the construction of Sewage Disposal Works at Holcombe, is now in progress, likewise the reconstruction of the Disposal Works at Oakhill in the Parish of Ashwick. In order of priority it is hoped to provide sewerage and sewage disposal for the following Villages — Pilton, (£58,142), Ditchat, (£36,050), West Cranmore, (£22,600), and the re-sewerage of Evercreech and part of Stoney Stratton, (£102,370).

TAUNTON. No new works or improvements were carried out during the year although some progress was made in connection with the schemes for Churchstanton and Hatch Beauchamp. Works envisaged and in order of priority concern the Parishes of West Monkton, (£250,000), Henlade (Ruishton Parish), Kingston St. Mary and West Bagborough.

WELLINGTON. Although no works have been completed during the year, the District Council have commenced relaying sewers at Milverton. In order of priority the District Council propose to deal with the following Parishes — Wiveliscombe, relaying of sewers and improvements to disposal works, (£40,000), Bradford-on-Tone, new sewers and disposal works (including Chelston and Ham in West Buckland Parish), (£100,000), Fitzhead, new sewers and disposal works, (£17,000), also for Sampford Arundel and Wellington Without (Holywell Lake), new sewers and disposal works, (£90,000).

WELLS. The Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme for Easton and Westbury-sub-Mendip has now been completed at a cost of £75,000, and some progress was made during the year in connection with the scheme for Rodney Stoke and Draycott. With regard to priorities a scheme is in course of preparation for Butleigh and Baltonsborough, at a cost of £123,000, after which this Authority will consider schemes for St. Cuthbert Out Parish, comprising Glencott, Elm Close and the Haybridge areas. A scheme for the Parish of Coxley is also envisaged.

WILLITON. The major scheme affecting Luccombe and Selworthy has now been completed at a cost of £42,000. No works are at present in progress although it is anticipated that work will shortly commence on the sewerage of Bicknoller, Sampford Brett and Stogumber, (£80,000), Stogursey, (£21,000) and Kilve (£900).

WINCANTON. No major works or improvements were carried out during the year but some progress has been made in connection with the schemes for North Cadbury and Charlton Horethorne. Ministry approval is awaited in connection with the Bayford (Stoke Trister) Scheme. Plans are in course of preparation for Sutton Montis in the Parish of South Cadbury. Surveys are to be made during 1964 in connection with Galhampton in North Cadbury Parish and Yenston in Henstridge Parish.

YEOVIL. No progress was made during 1963 in connection with schemes of sewerage and sewage disposal in this Authority's area, although under future proposals the following schemes have been given in order of priority — Ash and Tintinhull (awaiting Ministry approval), (£100,000), South Petherton, (£42,000), Haselbury Plucknett (Improvements) — scheme in course of preparation, (£500), Barwick (new scheme) — in course of preparation, (£43,000), Marston Magna and Rimpleton — in course of preparation, (£66,000), Norton, Chiselborough and West Chinnock (proposed), (£90,000) and Over Stratton (Improvements) (£350).

Schemes approved under the Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Acts, 1944 — 61, during the year were as follows:—

Rural District	Scheme	Estimated Cost (as submitted)		
		£	s.	d.
Axbridge	Bleadon Sewerage and Sewage Disposal	45,332	0	0
Axbridge	Brean and Berrow Sewerage and Sewage Disposal	108,838	0	0
Axbridge	Hutton and Banwell Sewerage and Sewage Disposal — Knightcott Extension — Phase II	3,750	0	0
Axbridge	Kewstoke Sewerage and Sewage Disposal	118,950	0	0
Bridgwater	Cossington Sewerage and Sewage Disposal	17,300	0	0
Frome	Faulkland Sewerage and Sewage Disposal	32,800	0	0
Frome	Upton Noble Sewerage and Sewage Disposal	42,000	0	0
Long Ashton	Backwell — Church Town — Sewer Extension	2,750	0	0
Long Ashton	Backwell Farleigh — Chapel Hill — Sewer Extension	6,500	0	0
Long Ashton	Clapton-in-Gordano — Sewer Extension	897	0	0
Wells	Rodney Stoke and Draycott Sewerage and Sewage Disposal — Millway to Bucklegrove Sewer Extension	4,340	0	0
Wincanton	Wincanton — Dancing Lane — Sewer Extension	2,635	0	0
		£386,092	0	0

Schemes approved prior to 1963 but costs and/or proposals revised and re-submitted:—

Rural District	Scheme	Revised Cost		
		£	s.	d.
Axbridge	Hutton, Banwell and Locking Sewerage and Sewage Disposal – Phase I.			
	Sandford, Churchill and Langford Sewerage and Sewage Disposal	49,809	0	0
Bridgwater	Chilton Polden Sewerage and Sewage Disposal ...	44,107	0	0
Chard	Tatworth Sewerage and Sewage Disposal	32,230	0	0
Long Ashton	Nailsea Surface Water Sewerage	43,570	0	0
Shepton Mallet	Holcombe Sewerage and Sewage Disposal	65,926	0	0
Shepton Mallet	Oakhill Sewage Disposal Works – Reconstruction	29,400	0	0
Taunton	Stoke St. Gregory Sewerage and Sewage Disposal	94,450	0	0
Wellington	Wiveliscombe – Relaying of Sewers and extension to Hillsmoor Sewage Disposal Works	42,800	0	0
Wells	Butleigh and Baltonsborough Sewerage and Sewage Disposal	123,000	0	0
Wincanton	Charlton Horethorne Sewerage and Sewage Disposal	34,300	0	0
		£559,592	0	0

HOUSING

Obviously there are many houses in Somerset which would benefit by modernisation and it is unfortunate that more people do not take advantage of the facilities available under the Housing Acts for Standard and Discretionary Grants. It is very evident that in view of the present housing shortage existing accommodation should be maintained in a reasonable state of repair for a long time to come. Local Authorities have powers to requisition but in the main it is the property owners and owner/occupiers who could do a great deal to help improve the situation. Obviously some measure of compulsion will have to be introduced before there is any significant change in the rate of improvement of sub-standard houses.

As will be observed in Table A below, applications for Grants within the Boroughs and Urbans have increased slightly but the Rural figures show a decrease. Of the 1,322 applications approved during the year, 836 were in respect of owner/occupiers.

TABLE A

	Applications							
	Received				Approved			
	Boroughs & Urbans		Rurals		Boroughs & Urbans		Rurals	
	1962	1963	1962	1963	1962	1963	1962	1963
Discretionary ...	176	199	420	393	137	149	404	383
Standard ...	371	380	516	445	371	361	516	429
Totals ...	547	579	936	838	508	510	920	812

The following Table gives the position in the County with regard to houses demolished, closed and declared unfit, etc., as at the 31st December, 1963.

TABLE B

	Action during year							Rent Act, 1957 (1st Schedule)	
	Number of houses demolished or closed under Section 42 of the Housing Act, 1957 (Clearance Areas)	Number of houses demolished or closed		Number of temporary dwellings, huts etc. demolished	Number of houses declared unfit under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1957 (capable of repair)	Number of unfit houses occupied under licence	Number of houses made fit during year	Certificate of Disrepair	
		under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1957 (individual unfits)	for other purposes (Road Improvements etc.)					Number of applications received	Number of Certificates issued
Boroughs & Urbans	133	162	56	17	10	1	748	3	2
Rurals	68	161	15	—	622	3	584	2	2
Totals	201	323	71	17	632	4	1,332	5	4

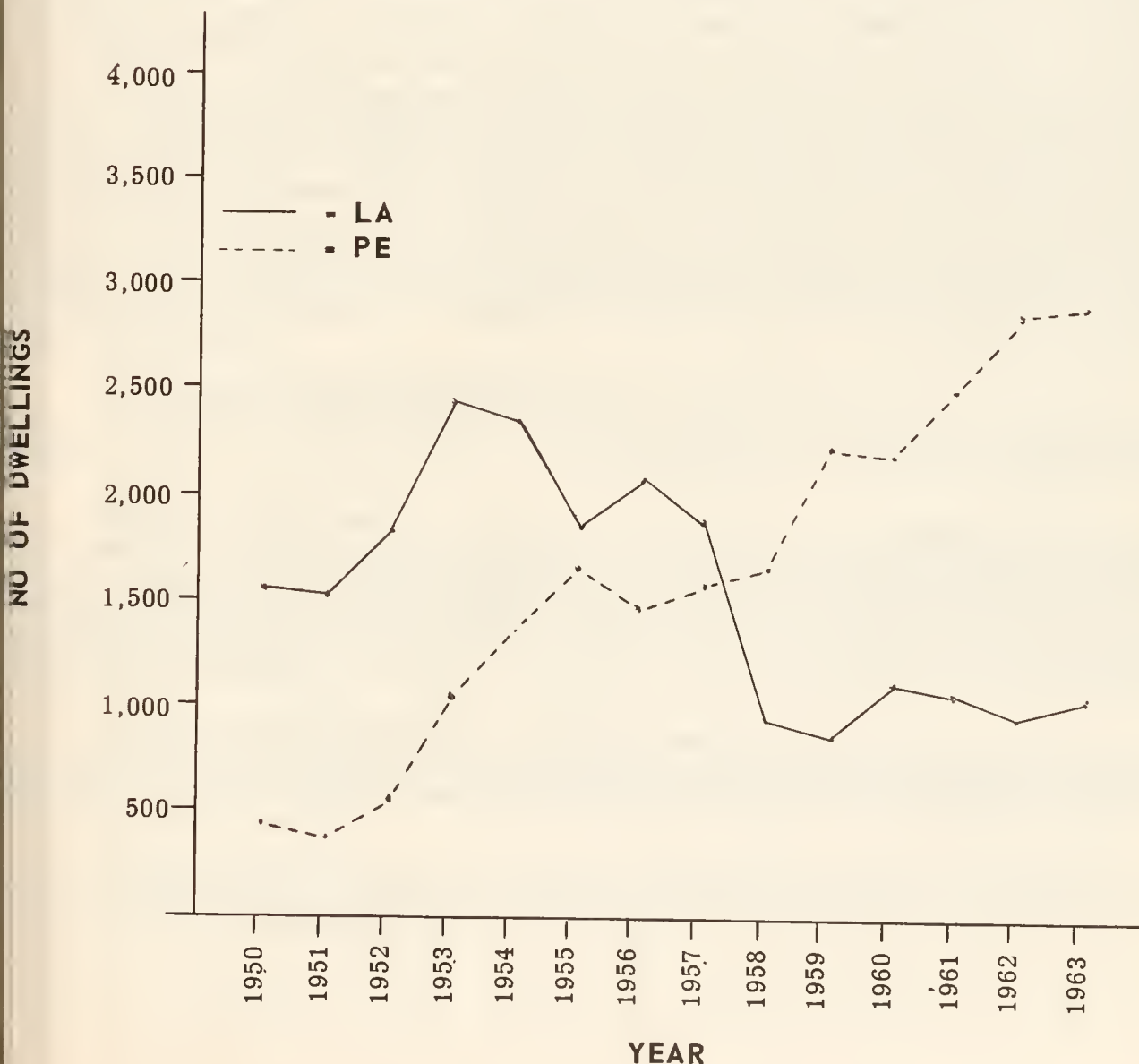
The observations above relating to Standard and Discretionary Grants are supported by the number of applicants for housing accommodation. At the end of 1962 there were 10,545 applications, of which 3,638 were considered urgent bona fide cases. At the 31st December, 1963, there were over 10,800, including applications from elderly people, requiring accommodation, of whom over 4,000 were considered as urgent cases. The position, therefore, is far from satisfactory and many families with serious housing problems can only be rehoused when casual vacancies occur.

Houses erected during the year were as follows. The figures in brackets are those for 1962.

Local Authority	—	1,023 (992)
Private Enterprise	—	2,911 (2,879)

The following graph illustrates the rate of housing development since 1950.

PERMANENT DWELLINGS ERECTED



HOUSING OLD PEOPLE (OLD PEOPLE'S DWELLINGS). Applications for old people's dwellings at the 31st December, 1963, numbered 2,294. To meet the increasing demand for such accommodation local authorities have provided in the year approximately 400 additional dwellings – there are a further 70 under construction. Table C illustrates the position within the Borough, Urban and Rural districts.

TABLE C

	Number of Applicants for Old People's Dwellings at		Number erected		Number of Dwellings in course of Erection	
	31.12.62	31.12.63	To 31.12.62	To 31.12.63	1962	1963
Boroughs & Urbans	1,091	1,308	743	906	249	244
Rurals	801	986	696	916	180	255
Totals	1,892	2,294	1,439	1,822	429	499

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

It is a little difficult to give any firm figure for the number of conversions from pail and other types of closet to a water carriage system as some authorities have not maintained records giving this detail. However, from the figures submitted it is estimated that well over 700 conversions have been made during the year.

CESSPOOL EMPTYING

Six authorities are providing a service for the emptying of cesspools. Arrangements for removal are either based on the load, on an hourly rate or upon the capacity of the cesspool.

The disposal of the contents of cesspools has always been a problem. During the past year several complaints have been received from occupiers of property near to farm land complaining of the smell from land over which cesspool contents had been spread. This method is certainly offensive — a rural hazard which calls for some further consideration.

SCHOOL SANITATION

Just over twelve years ago a sanitary survey was carried out of all schools in the County — some 478 in number, of which 154 were found to have grossly sub-standard sanitary arrangements. These comprised Troughs (32), Pails (67) and Swanmores and Privies (55). The fittings at many schools had not been improved or modernised from the day the schools were erected and were described at the time as either 'primitive' or 'archaic'. Other defects were evident such as a lack of a main water supply. In fact 11 per cent of schools were without a piped water supply and 24 per cent had no water carriage system of sanitation. Undoubtedly the worst conditions were those located in the more rural areas.

The position today is somewhat improved, only one school now relying upon the swanmore system. Apart from one or two isolated cases all schools have a mains water supply.

Since the initial survey, £120,000 has been allocated to 'sanitary improvements' for County and Voluntary Controlled Schools. However, much still remains to be done and a recent survey of school buildings carried out at the request of the Ministry of Education revealed that a large number have deficiencies of W.C.'s and/or wash-hand basins and many are without a supply of hot water — facilities which are taken for granted in new school buildings.

Obviously those schools with the greatest need must be dealt with first but funds are so very limited that it has only been possible to select schools for immediate attention where hygienic conditions are below those required under the Standards for School Premises Regulations, 1959.

A more detailed report on the sanitary conditions in schools is contained in a report on the School Health Service.

HOUSE REFUSE

	Removed by		Number of Vehicles Employed
	Direct Labour	Contract	
Boroughs and Urbans	20	—	43
Rurals	13	3	39

TRADE WASTE

There have been very few alterations in the schemes operated for the collection of trade waste. The majority of Borough and Urban Authorities have organised collections and levy a charge depending upon the number of bins removed, frequency of collection or by agreement with the trade. Only the rural authorities operate schemes when trade waste is removed during the normal refuse collection. One rural authority makes a charge of fifty-five shillings a load and one charges an annual fee.

REFUSE DISPOSAL

	Boroughs and Urbans	Rurals
Controlled tipping	20*	11
Semi-controlled tipping	2	8
Uncontrolled tips	3	6
Incineration method	4	2

* Includes one tip outside administrative County boundary — Bathavon R.D.C. has authority to use Bath Corporation Tip.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS

Although some authorities share the services of a rodent operator the consensus of opinion is one of satisfaction with the service provided. Two authorities are without an operator but arrangements are being made to rectify this early in 1964.

CAMPING SITES

CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960

	Permanent		Seasonal	
	Boroughs & Urbans	Rurals	Boroughs & Urbans	Rurals
Number of single caravans licensed	26	309	2	9
Number of site licences issued in respect of more than one caravan	29	90	25	90
Estimated maximum number of occupants resident during year	1,207	3,144	4,920	13,708
Number of sites closed as a result of above Act ...	—	5	—	2

Since the introduction of the above Act, the conditions at the majority of licensed caravan and camping sites have risen considerably. The provision of additional sanitary facilities, adequate drainage, hard standing and access roads, have all contributed to the general improvement. Sites where conditions are found to be below those required under the Act are subject to closure but owners are given every opportunity to bring the sites up to the desired standard before such action is implemented.

One Authority, the Dulverton Rural District Council, have entered into an agreement with The Caravan Club for use of a permanent site to accommodate twenty caravans adjoining their Council Offices. This site will be available during the period April to September.

LAY-BYS — SANITARY CONVENIENCES

Although a great deal of publicity has been given to this very complex problem, little effective action appears to have been taken so far.

However, in order to obtain factual information as to the extent of the problem over the A.38 trunk road passing through Somerset, it was decided to carry out a survey, in conjunction with the Rural District Councils' Association and the County Surveyor's Department, through the peak holiday period. It was found that no fewer than 33 lay-bys were in use for overnight halts. On a count taken one night during the peak holiday weekend, 26th July, 307 cars, 23 lorries and 28 caravans were found to be using the lay-bys for overnight halts.

Since there are no public conveniences on any of these lay-bys, it is obvious that some provision is urgently needed to prevent indiscriminate use of open lay-bys for insanitary purposes.

It is understood that in Oxfordshire the County Council have provided on one lay-by, as an experiment, a wooden chalet type of building to house chemical closets of special design with underground tanks which are pumped out at intervals. The experiment has been, it would seem, highly successful at a very nominal cost compared with the cost of providing permanent buildings and sanitary conveniences of more normal design.

The County Surveyor's Department are to provide data for submission to the County Councils' Association with a view to making representations to the Ministries of Transport and Housing and Local Government seeking approval to similar schemes to be carried out on other trunk roads in the country.

SCHOOL SWIMMING POOLS

At the beginning of the year a handbook on school swimming pools, containing notes on construction, maintenance, water purification, etc., was issued. This publication has been well received both within and outside the County. One of the main advantages of the book has been to encourage the standardisation of approved pool design and this seems to have been of great assistance to those deciding upon the type of pool they felt they could build. The overall effect seems to have been to increase both the number of applications for pools and the number of projects to include full purification plant.

During the season 39 pools were in use, 12 of which have now been provided with full purification plant including filtration, and 8 with automatic chlorination and recirculation. Of the 26 schemes at present under consideration orders have been given or work has actually started on 7. During the season routine visits were made and each school completed and returned regularly the required record concerning water chlorination etc. Because more automatic purification plant has now been installed conditions have been found better than was previously the case. Although the weather was not the most suitable for outdoor swimming the season was nevertheless extended until late September.

	Number of Baths				Water Used			Treatment				Fill and Empty Pools		Samples Taken			
	Local Authority	Private Enterprise	Schools		Main	Sea	Other	Recirculation	Filtration	Chlorination		Chlorination		Bacteriological	Residual		
			Somerset County Council	Other						Automatic	Hand	Automatic	Hand		Less than 0.2	0.2 to 0.5	More than 0.5
Boroughs & Urbans	15	4	20	10	42	6	—	26	26	26	1	5	17	140	70	583	184
Rurals	—	10	19	14	29	—	13	19	20	18	1	3	20	14	40	626	162

SUPERVISION OVER THE FOOD SUPPLY

SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION

Details concerning Slaughterhouses, Bacon Factories and Knackers Yards, animals inspected and weight of meat condemned are set out in the following Tables.

THE MEAT INSPECTION REGULATIONS, 1963. These Regulations which came into operation on the 1st October, 1963, replace the Public Health (Meat) Regulations made in 1924.

The main purpose of the new Regulations is to provide the means to give effect to the Government's long-standing intention that all home-killed meat is inspected before it leaves the slaughterhouse. One of the reasons why this has not previously been possible is that local authorities would have had to bear an unfair burden of the cost. The above Regulations now permit local authorities to charge for inspection of all animals slaughtered at the following rates:—

not exceeding 2s. 6d. per horse or bovine animal (other than a calf);

not exceeding 9d. per calf or pig;

not exceeding 6d. per sheep, lamb or goat.

It is not the intention that local authorities should recoup more than the actual cost of inspection. Some in fact will be able to charge much less than the scale laid down, especially when really large scale slaughtering is carried out, whilst others may decide not to levy a charge for inspection.

Obviously existing staff will be unable to cope and many districts are now employing additional qualified inspectors either on a part or full-time basis. So far as can be ascertained the position in Somerset is that fifteen authorities charge the maximum and ten at different levels in the scale. Contracts have been negotiated in one or two cases. One authority is giving a free inspection service.

Exchequer grant for meat inspection terminated on the 30th September, 1963.

TABLE 'A'

	Slaughterhouses/Abattoirs in operation owner or leased by Local Authorities	Private Slaughterhouses		Bacon Factories	Knackers Yards
		Licensed	Operating		
Boroughs & Urbans	3	16	16	2	1
Rurals	—	53	50	1	6
	3	69	66	3	7

TABLE 'B'

	Cattle and Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
(1) Number inspected	63,856	46,880	210,635	217,844	539,215
(2) All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci					
(a) Whole carcasses condemned 	437	466	760	723	2,386
(b) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned 	17,073	523	6,987	22,236	46,819
(3) Tuberculosis only					
(a) Whole carcasses condemned 	5	—	—	9	14
(b) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned 	107	1	—	5,421	5,529
(4) Cysticercosis					
(a) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned 	273	—	—	—	273
(b) Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	253	—	—	—	253
(c) Generalised and/or totally condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—

The total weight of meat condemned during the year amounted to 448,105 lbs. This is not a complete figure for the County as four Authorities were unable to provide this information. 43,826 lbs. or 9.7 per cent was affected with tuberculosis.

TABLE 'C'

	MEAT CONDEMNED — 1963				
	— lbs. —				
	Cattle and Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
Tuberculosis	5,738	6	—	38,082	43,826
Cysticercosis	8,454	—	—	—	8,454
Other	242,885	18,754	35,733	98,441	395,813
Totals	257,077	18,760	35,733	136,523	448,093

The number of cattle condemned for Tuberculosis shows a remarkable drop over the years and indicates considerable improvement in animal health since the "Attested Herds" Scheme was introduced.

POULTRY PACKING ESTABLISHMENTS

Details of these establishments have not previously been included in the Report. There are seventeen, (fifteen in the Rural Districts and two in the Urban Areas), in the County and the approximate weekly kill amounts to close on 76,000 birds. Most of the "throughput" are young birds of twelve to fourteen weeks. There is no routine examination by Inspectors as this would be quite impracticable in view of the numbers slaughtered.

DESIGNATED MILK (RAW)

MILK PRODUCERS AND PRODUCER-RETAILERS. The following details have been provided by the Divisional Executive Officer of the County Agricultural Executive Committee.

	As at 31st December, 1963
Number of Registered Producers in County	5,700
Number licensed to produce "Tuberculin Tested" milk	5,424 (* 5,411 operative)
Number of Producer-Retailers of "Tuberculin Tested" milk	278
Licences revoked over past twelve months ...	13
Producers' Licences under suspension as at 31st December, 1963	* 13

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) REGULATIONS, 1963

These Regulations re-enact, with amendments, the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960.

- (a) "Untreated" replaces "Tuberculin Tested" as the special designation for raw milk.
- (b) The Methylene Blue test replaces the Clot-on-Boiling test as the test for milk to which a producer's licence relates. (This amendment relates to samples taken by the County Agricultural Executive Committee).
- (c) A general licence will be granted to certain producers who sell milk produced from herds owned or controlled by them in the course of catering sales at or from the premises where the herds are maintained. The conditions of this licence are substantially similar to those of existing producers' licences except that the quantity of milk sold for catering purposes is restricted to 50 gallons in any one year. (The issue of such licences is the responsibility of the County Agricultural Executive Committee).
- (d) A producer's licence, granted for a temporary purpose and valid for one month only, is introduced. (This again is the responsibility of the County Agricultural Executive Committee).

In view of the extensive use of cartons, the Ministry are allowing the use of the words "Farm Cartoned" as an alternative to "Farm Bottled". Both terms refer to milk which is placed in containers on the premises where the milk is produced.

All holders of licences who are authorised to use the special designation "Tuberculin Tested" Milk will be required to apply for and be issued with new licences. A period from 1st June, 1964 until 1st October, 1964, the latter being the date upon which the new licences for "Untreated Milk" will become operative, allows for such issues to be made. These licences will remain in force until 31st December, 1965. Thereafter, licences will be renewable for a five-year period as all other dealers' licences.

Various other minor amendments have been made but these are primarily administrative and relate to the reporting of unsatisfactory raw milk samples to the County Agricultural Executive Committee. In fact this procedure was introduced some years ago and has proved most helpful.

The Water Undertakers were not alone with their difficulties during the Arctic Winter — the dairy trade also had their problems. Thousands of bottles disappeared under the snow; milk floats and vehicles were smashed, lost or snow bound; lorries were unable to collect milk from farms, and in some cases three men were allocated to a delivery vehicle — two to dig and one to deliver the milk! Back in the dairy pipe lines were frozen up and processing equipment placed under great strain. Throughout, however, the staff maintained a service to the customer — although at times the milk was not delivered until 10 p.m. at night. The trade certainly lived up to their proud boast that they have "the best milk delivery service in the world".

With the thaw came the problems of repairs and replacement. Throughout the quality of the milk sampled remained high although for obvious reasons sampling during this period was restricted. By mid-February conditions were almost back to normal and routine sampling was continued at the usual frequency.

The sale of milk from general stores and the like continues to increase and most are now equipped with refrigerated counters for the storage of milk. Vending machines are also very popular, although there has been on significant increase in the number in use during the year.

It was found necessary to institute proceedings against one dairyman under the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959, who, following numerous warnings, had failed to comply with the relevant provisions of the Regulations. A fine of £10 was imposed in this instance.

A second case, concerning a Dealer holding a Pre-packed Milk Licence, was taken by the Weights and Measures Department, and resulted in a fine of £21 being imposed.

Most of the failing samples, see Table 'B', were concerned with keeping quality, (Methylene Blue test) — the greatest number of which occurred in samples collected from Vending Machines and retail shops. It is extremely difficult in both instances to gauge day to day demand and occasionally this results in small stocks being held for much longer than is desirable.

It has been found that milk sold in cartons, now on the increase due to the considerable loss of bottles, is rather more susceptible to climatic changes than the glass container and this, allied to certain factors of production (they must be filled under the most aseptic conditions), leads to a much higher percentage of unsatisfactory samples.

Samples of raw Tuberculin Tested milk collected from Producer-Retailers which fail the Methylene Blue test, normally due to faulty methods of production, are immediately referred to the County Agricultural Executive Committee for investigation.

We have received the greatest co-operation from the dairy trade throughout the year and complaints received and investigated have been of a minor nature. The normal procedure for inspection of dairy premises was maintained although as already mentioned, this had to be relaxed during the cold spell.

Details of samples taken from licensed pasteurising plants, also the only sterilising plant in the County, are contained in Table 'A'.

Information regarding Dealers' licences and samples taken during the year are as under:—

Dealer's (Steriliser's) Licences	—	1
Dealer's (Pasteuriser's) Licences	—	18
Dealer's (Tuberculin Tested) Licences	—	53
Dealer's (Pre-packed Milk) Licences	—	527

All licences were operative at 31st December, 1963.

TABLE 'A'

Licensed Pasteurising Plant Samples

	Number of samples taken	Number Satisfactory	Percentage unsatisfactory
Pasteurised			
Bulk	38	37	2.6
Bottled	583	566	2.9
	621	603	2.9
Sterilised	25	25	—

	Pasteurised
(1) Number failing Phosphatase test	7
(2) Number failing Methylene Blue test	10
(3) Number failing both tests (1) and (2)	1

TABLE 'B'

Licensed Dealers' Samples

	Number of samples taken	Number Satisfactory	Percentage Unsatisfactory
Pasteurised	1,343	1,278	4.8
Sterilised	40	40	—
Tuberculin Tested	1,464	1,251	14.5
	2,847	2,569	9.8

	Pasteurised
(1) Number failing Phosphatase test	4
(2) Number failing Methylene Blue test	60
(3) Number failing both tests (1) and (2)	

TABLE 'C'

Licensed Pasteurising Plans and Dealers' Samples
(Tables 'A' and 'B')

	Number of Samples taken	Number satisfactory	Percentage unsatisfactory
Pasteurised	1,964	1,881	4.2
Sterilised	65	65	—
Tuberculin Tested	1,464	1,251	14.5
	3,493	3,197	8.5

	Pasteurised
(1) Number failing Phosphatase test	11
(2) Number failing Methylene Blue test	70
(3) Number failing both tests (1) and (2)	2

BIOLOGICAL SAMPLING

Sampling for biological purposes has been continued throughout the year as a routine measure, and following the occurrence of milk-born diseases viz. Undulant and "Q" Fever. Where evidence of infection was found appropriate action was taken in accordance with Section 20 of the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959, which requires the farmer to submit his milk for heat treatment to ensure that it is safe for human consumption. The heat treatment notice served may remain in force until such time as the Medical Officer of Health is satisfied that the source of the infection has been satisfactorily dealt with.

MILK SAMPLING — ANTIBIOTICS

The use of antibiotics as the most effective treatment to date for mastitis is now common dairy farming practice. Nevertheless the presence of antibiotics in milk is undesirable from the public health standpoint. In 1961 the Milk Hygiene Sub-Committee of the Milk and Milk Products Technical Advisory Committee (appointed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food) commenced a survey to determine the incidence of Penicillin and other antibiotics in milk and after most exhaustive enquiries formulated the opinion that Penicillin is the most common antibiotic found in milk, although they were aware that other antibiotics and inhibitory substances were present in the milk

being tested at the time. One of their recommendations on conclusion of their enquiries was that "Food and Drugs Authorities should be encouraged to sample and test ex-farm milk for the presence of antibiotics and to take appropriate action".

In conjunction with the County Analyst, (see County Analyst's Annual Report, 1963), sampling was commenced early in August and at the 31st December, 38 samples had given readings above those recommended by the Sub-Committee. The Milk Marketing Board has a clause in its Contract with producers which requires them "not to deliver any milk produced from a cow that shows any symptoms of disease of the udder . . . or has had its udder treated with antibiotics less than 48 hours before such production". From the results of the samples submitted for examination it is obvious that milk containing antibiotics and other inhibitory substances in excess of the figure suggested is still finding its way to Creameries. In all such instances investigations on the farms have been instituted and the cases have been referred to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, as the control of mastitis is essentially a dairy herd management problem. It is understood that the Milk Marketing Board will in future enforce a price penalty where milk is found to contain antibiotics.

ANIMAL HEALTH

The following details have been obtained from the Divisional Veterinary Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

	As at 31.12.63
(1) Approximate number of Attested cattle in County 	350,000
(2) Number of herds Attested and for which "Tuberculin Tested" Licences have been granted 	5,424
(3) Number of herds Attested only 	2,457
(4) Number of herds (Beef) only 	748

HOSPITAL FARMS

Samples taken on behalf of the Ministry of Health for bacteriological examination from the one remaining hospital farm in the County numbered 21.

MILK-IN-SCHOOLS SCHEME

Since 1954 the Local Education Authority has provided milk for pupils at all schools maintained by them by contract with a few major suppliers. In 1956 this arrangement was extended to include non-maintained schools. The scheme is operated on a three-yearly contract basis.

Proceedings were instituted by a Local Authority against one firm in respect of a bottle of milk which contained foreign matter. They pleaded guilty to the offence and were fined £25 with £5 5s. 0d. costs. Although 66,600 bottles of milk are supplied daily, the scheme works smoothly with very few complaints.

991 samples were collected during the year from schools, canteens and other County Council establishments, of which 39 proved unsatisfactory. In addition 380 samples were examined for fats and solids-not-fat. Eleven samples were found to be below the 8.5% solids-not-fat and one did not reach the presumptive standard of 3.0% fat.

SAMPLING OF MILK SUPPLIES TO SCHOOLS AND OTHER COUNTY
COUNCIL ESTABLISHMENTS

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS — SAMPLES TAKEN IN 1963

	Pasteurised		T. T.		Total
	Sat.	Uns.	Sat.	Uns.	
Schools	471	12	33	1	517
Central Kitchens	69	8	—	—	77
Self-Contained Canteens	180	6	—	—	186
Residential Nurseries, Day Nurseries and Children's Homes	60	5	26	1	92
Mental Health Training Centres	14	2	—	—	16
County Council Homes and Institutions ...	78	4	21	—	103
TOTALS	872	37	80	2	991

ICE-CREAM

Details of samples collected by Local Authorities during 1963:—

SAMPLES TAKEN

	Boroughs and Urbans		Rurals		Total	
	Number	% Sat.	Number	% Sat.	Number	% Sat.
Hot Mix	366	91.0	34	94.1	400	91.2
Cold Mix	48	95.8	—	—	48	95.8
TOTALS	414	91.5	34	94.1	448	91.7

SCHOOL MEALS SERVICE

The meat inspection service was continued throughout the year. This service was introduced some two years ago and provides for the inspection of meat for fitness and quality supplied under contract to central kitchens and self-contained canteens. Visits and enquiries made during the year numbered 228.

All complaints were investigated immediately and appropriate action taken as each case demanded.

The fitness and quality of meat supplied continued to be generally satisfactory and suppliers were most co-operative in dealing with complaints which arose from time to time.

Certain of the foods submitted by firms making tenders for their supply to school canteens and central kitchens were examined in the County Laboratory, the main commodities being preserves, custard powders, cornflours, baking powders, flours, margarines and cooking fats. A considerable range of liquid detergents was also put through various tests in order to determine which were the most efficient and the best value for money.

Altogether, 105 samples were analysed and classified on a basis of general good quality and, of course, compliance with the appropriate standards, where these exist. This total included one sample of dried apricots, which was the subject of complaint by reason of the presence of dirt, stalks and discoloured fruits. The County Analyst reported that the complaint was found to be justified in this instance, the supply being of poor quality.

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

There have been some interesting developments during the year concerning the implementation of Regulations made under the above Act. For instance in Street, where one or two factories are now burning fuel oil, instruments have been installed to measure atmospheric pollution. Information obtained is being collated and passed to the Warren Spring Laboratory of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research at their request.

At Portishead monthly reports are submitted to the Urban District Council on the analysis of grit deposits and sulphur dioxide guages situated on their sites in the District. In addition to these gauges the Council have approved the provision and siting of one automatic smoke and sulphur dioxide apparatus. Some complaints concerning the emission of grit from the Portishead Power Station were dealt with by the Ministry's Alkali Inspector.

Informal action by the Clutton Rural District Council relating to unsatisfactory incineration at a factory in their area resulted in the Company installing improved plant.

TABLE 1 CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1963

Causes of Death	Net deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District											
	All Ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 1 year	1 and under 5 years	5 and under 15 years	15 and under 25 years	25 and under 35 years	35 and under 45 years	45 and under 55 years	55 and under 65 years	65 and under 75 years	75 and upwards
Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	10	5	6
Tuberculosis, other ...	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—
Syphilitic disease ...	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	3	6
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	154	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	7	28	52	63
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	219	—	—	—	1	—	—	6	27	56	92	37
Malignant neoplasm, breast	115	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	22	17	35	31
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	39	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	6	8	14	7
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	606	—	—	3	1	4	5	22	44	109	177	241
Leukaemia, aleukaemia ...	26	—	—	4	2	1	1	3	2	4	4	5
Diabetes ...	40	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	4	11	21
Vascular lesions of nervous system	1,140	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	38	106	295	694
Coronary disease, angina ...	1,274	—	—	—	—	—	4	12	54	210	420	574
Hypertension with heart disease	159	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	24	53	78
Other heart disease ...	976	—	—	—	—	2	4	10	24	55	144	737
Other circulatory disease ...	358	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	11	46	78	220
Influenza ...	44	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	5	7	30
Pneumonia ...	384	7	14	2	1	2	2	2	4	35	88	227
Bronchitis ...	306	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	11	47	101	143
Other disease of respiratory system	86	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	4	15	32	32
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	55	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	4	15	29
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	28	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	6	3	7	9
Nephritis and nephrosis ...	31	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	1	5	10	11
Hyperplasia of prostate ...	27	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	20
Pregnancy, Childbirth and abortion	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital malformations ...	59	21	13	7	1	1	1	2	5	4	2	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	531	66	4	5	3	4	8	9	23	49	98	262
Motor vehicle accidents ...	93	—	—	1	5	32	8	11	9	8	11	8
All other accidents ...	114	1	2	6	4	4	5	13	7	11	18	43
Suicide ...	53	—	—	—	—	2	8	9	7	15	11	1
Homicide and operations of war	5	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	—
All Causes ...	6,967	97	33	29	21	60	51	134	331	882	1,792	3,535

TABLE 2 CAUSES OF DEATH AT ALL AGES IN EACH DISTRICT DURING THE YEAR 1963
URBAN DISTRICTS

Causes of Death	Bridgwater	Burnham	Chard	Clevedon	Crewkerne	Frome	Glastonbury	Ilminster	Keynsham	Minehead	Norton-Radstock	Portishead	Shepton Mallet	Street	Taunton	Watchet	Wellington	Wells	Weston-super-Mare	Yeovil	TOTAL (Urban Districts)
tuberculosis, respiratory	2	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	2	1	15
tuberculosis, other ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
phylloidal disease ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
whooping Cough ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
meningococcal infections	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
acute Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
measles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
other infective and para- sitic diseases ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	6
malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	10	2	4	5	1	3	4	1	6	2	3	3	1	2	4	—	5	2	15	7	80
malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	12	9	4	5	1	3	—	3	8	5	8	2	1	1	16	—	2	2	19	10	111
malignant neoplasm, breast ...	5	2	1	5	—	1	2	2	2	1	4	2	—	—	9	1	2	6	9	8	62
malignant neoplasm, uterus ...	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	4	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	2	2	18
other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	20	18	4	21	2	11	6	3	15	14	11	8	7	7	35	4	12	5	67	24	294
leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	2	2	2	12
diabetes ...	1	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	—	2	—	1	1	2	2	16
vascular lesions of nervous system ...	43	24	27	33	11	38	11	3	34	29	21	12	6	13	68	5	16	24	111	65	594
coronary disease, angina	49	34	12	37	22	25	11	5	46	31	27	16	12	16	84	7	27	13	140	51	665
hypertension with heart disease ...	14	5	2	3	3	3	1	—	3	4	3	3	5	—	13	—	1	3	16	7	89
other heart disease ...	50	14	16	17	2	25	22	11	24	18	10	3	18	10	45	6	22	17	114	33	477
other circulatory disease	15	16	3	8	3	7	7	1	5	7	9	4	4	3	24	4	5	3	33	11	172
influenza ...	1	—	—	2	—	—	2	1	—	—	2	2	—	—	1	—	—	3	2	3	19
pneumonia ...	24	6	7	6	4	8	2	—	7	8	8	4	—	2	29	—	10	3	35	18	181
bronchitis ...	13	6	3	7	3	4	7	3	6	1	4	2	5	4	28	2	4	10	28	23	163
other disease of respira- tory system ...	4	3	—	—	—	4	—	—	4	—	8	—	—	1	1	1	—	1	8	3	38
other of stomach and duodenum ...	1	1	—	3	1	2	—	—	—	3	—	1	—	—	6	1	2	—	4	4	29
gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	—	1	1	3	1	1	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	14
phritis and nephrosis	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	1	—	3	1	—	—	1	2	2	14
hyperplasia of prostate	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	2	—	1	1	—	1	1	1	13
pregnancy, Childbirth and abortion ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
congenital malformations	2	3	1	3	—	2	3	1	5	—	1	—	—	—	4	—	—	1	5	2	33
other defined and ill- defined diseases ...	18	8	7	15	4	10	1	1	6	12	9	5	7	5	39	1	9	40	43	18	258
motor vehicle accidents	3	—	—	2	—	3	—	1	—	2	1	2	1	2	7	1	1	2	6	5	39
other accidents ...	4	3	1	4	1	4	1	—	1	1	2	2	1	3	6	—	1	—	21	2	58
suicide ...	1	2	—	1	—	2	2	—	3	2	—	—	—	—	3	2	2	—	3	5	28
homicide and operations of war ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	2
Total Causes ...	299	158	96	180	62	160	82	38	178	147	144	77	71	72	430	36	124	143	692	314	3,503

TABLE 3 CAUSES OF DEATH AT ALL AGES IN EACH DISTRICT DURING THE YEAR 1963
RURAL DISTRICTS

Causes of Death	Axbridge	Bathavon	Bridgwater	Chard	Clutton	Dulverton	Frome	Langport	Long Ashton	Shepton Mallet	Taunton	Wellington	Wells	Williton	Wincanton	Yeovil	TOTAL (Rural Districts)	COUNTY TOTAL
Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	1	2	—	—	1	—	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	10	25
Tuberculosis, other ...	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3
Syphilitic disease ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	3
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	2	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	6	12
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	10	10	6	3	4	1	5	3	10	—	4	1	5	6	2	4	74	154
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	13	9	9	3	8	2	4	6	9	7	7	3	4	6	7	11	108	219
Malignant neoplasm, breast	8	2	5	1	3	1	4	3	5	2	5	5	1	3	3	2	53	115
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	3	3	—	3	—	—	—	1	2	1	3	1	—	2	—	2	21	39
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	34	25	34	21	18	6	12	19	24	12	27	11	11	20	17	21	312	606
Leukaemia, aleukaemia ...	3	3	1	—	—	1	1	—	2	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	14	26
Diabetes ...	5	1	3	1	1	—	2	1	3	1	2	—	1	2	1	—	24	40
Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	54	34	44	30	33	5	21	25	50	30	62	20	27	40	35	36	546	1,140
Coronary disease, angina ...	72	56	50	25	35	14	17	31	79	21	51	23	33	29	27	46	609	1,274
Hypertension with heart disease ...	8	3	5	10	9	1	—	—	9	6	5	2	1	3	7	1	70	159
Other heart disease ...	48	24	49	24	42	10	24	27	49	21	40	17	45	20	20	39	499	976
Other circulatory disease ...	24	12	25	6	16	2	7	6	18	1	20	4	9	8	14	14	186	358
Influenza ...	—	1	2	—	1	—	2	1	3	—	3	—	3	—	5	4	25	44
Pneumonia ...	25	15	4	7	12	—	6	7	22	6	23	6	26	10	14	20	203	384
Bronchitis ...	14	7	9	3	17	3	6	2	10	9	20	5	5	10	10	13	143	306
Other disease of respiratory system ...	10	4	5	1	5	—	2	1	4	1	5	2	3	3	—	2	48	86
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	1	1	2	2	1	1	—	2	3	1	2	3	2	2	3	—	26	55
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	—	1	1	4	2	—	—	—	1	—	3	—	—	1	1	—	14	28
Nephritis and nephrosis ...	1	1	2	1	2	—	1	1	1	—	3	—	1	—	2	1	17	31
Hyperplasia of prostate ...	4	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	2	—	1	2	14	27
Pregnancy, Childbirth and abortion ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
Congenital malformations ...	2	—	3	1	1	—	1	—	3	4	4	—	1	1	3	2	26	59
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	24	13	20	11	10	2	10	16	32	12	36	6	11	28	20	22	273	531
Motor vehicle accidents ...	11	4	8	1	3	—	—	—	8	3	5	1	1	—	4	5	54	93
All other accidents ...	9	4	4	5	1	—	3	—	4	1	2	1	4	6	5	7	56	114
Suicide ...	4	4	2	—	1	—	1	—	3	—	2	1	—	2	—	5	25	53
Homicide and operations of war ...	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	3	5
All Causes ...	390	243	295	166	226	50	129	154	358	139	338	114	196	205	201	260	3,464	6,967

TABLE 4

TABLE SHOWING, FOR EACH URBAN DISTRICT, THE NUMBER OF BIRTHS, AND DEATHS, THE NUMBER OF DEATHS OF INFANTS, ALSO THE BIRTH RATE, DEATH RATE, AND RATE OF INFANTILE MORTALITY

Urban Districts	Live Births	Still Births	Deaths	Deaths under 1 year	Population	Crude Birth Rate	Adjusted Birth Rate	Crude Death Rate	Adjusted Death Rate	Infantile Mortality Rate
Bridgwater ...	491	8	299	4	26,130	18.79	18.42	11.45	11.80	8.15
Burnham ...	141	4	158	4	10,400	13.56	16.28	15.19	11.24	28.37
Chard ...	94	2	96	—	6,110	15.38	17.39	15.71	11.00	00.00
Clevedon ...	184	1	180	5	11,270	16.32	20.57	15.97	10.07	27.17
Crewkerne ...	79	2	62	1	4,450	17.75	21.48	13.93	12.68	12.66
Frome ...	231	9	160	7	11,630	19.86	21.65	13.76	10.46	30.31
Glastonbury ...	121	1	82	3	6,040	20.04	21.84	13.58	13.44	24.79
Ilminster ...	46	—	38	1	2,820	16.31	15.99	13.48	13.20	21.74
Keynsham ...	272	3	178	5	16,120	16.88	16.54	11.04	10.60	18.43
Minehead ...	91	1	147	1	7,520	12.10	16.33	19.54	10.95	10.99
Norton-Radstock ...	223	4	144	4	12,920	17.26	17.77	11.14	11.59	17.94
Portishead ...	121	1	77	3	7,040	17.19	18.91	10.93	12.47	24.79
Shepton Mallet ...	74	4	71	—	5,620	13.17	13.82	12.64	10.74	00.00
Street ...	141	2	72	—	7,030	20.05	19.45	10.24	11.16	00.00
Taunton ...	590	8	430	7	36,410	16.21	16.53	11.81	11.22	11.87
Watchet ...	39	—	36	—	2,610	14.95	17.19	13.79	12.55	00.00
Wellington ...	118	4	124	3	7,730	15.26	17.40	16.04	11.87	25.42
Wells ...	114	1	143	2	7,150	15.94	16.90	20.00	12.60	17.54
Weston-super-Mare	613	10	692	11	43,150	14.21	16.90	16.03	11.06	17.95
Yeovil ...	386	11	314	9	24,650	15.66	16.60	12.74	11.85	23.31
TOTAL of Urban Districts	4,169	76	3,503	70	256,800	16.24	17.53	13.64	11.32	16.79

TABLE 5

TABLE SHOWING, FOR EACH RURAL DISTRICT, THE NUMBER OF BIRTHS, AND DEATHS, THE NUMBER OF DEATHS OF INFANTS, ALSO THE BIRTH RATE, DEATH RATE, AND RATE OF INFANTILE MORTALITY

Rural Districts	Live Births	Still Births	Deaths	Deaths under 1 year	Population	Crude Birth Rate	Adjusted Birth Rate	Crude Death Rate	Adjusted Death Rate	Infantile Mortality Rate
Axbridge ...	482	5	390	2	31,980	15.07	18.08	12.20	11.22	4.15
Bathavon ...	340	5	243	1	21,020	16.17	17.15	11.56	10.86	2.94
Bridgwater ...	463	3	295	4	23,040	20.10	21.11	12.80	12.68	8.64
Chard ...	179	1	166	—	12,470	14.35	17.52	13.31	11.32	00.00
Clutton ...	271	3	226	2	18,220	14.87	16.06	12.40	11.41	7.38
Dulverton ...	65	1	50	1	4,300	15.11	18.74	11.62	10.47	15.38
Frome ...	195	4	129	2	11,040	17.66	19.95	11.69	11.57	10.26
Langport ...	211	6	154	1	13,340	15.81	18.03	11.54	10.16	4.74
Long Ashton ...	662	7	358	11	31,850	20.79	21.20	11.24	10.46	16.62
Shepton Mallet ...	177	2	139	3	10,550	16.78	18.46	13.17	11.73	16.94
Taunton ...	366	5	338	7	22,610	16.19	17.80	14.95	11.36	19.13
Wellington ...	126	5	114	1	8,270	15.24	17.37	13.78	11.71	7.94
Wells ...	194	2	196	3	10,720	18.09	19.00	18.28	10.60	15.46
Williton ...	221	4	205	5	13,770	16.05	20.70	14.89	10.57	22.62
Wincanton ...	290	4	201	6	16,660	17.41	20.36	12.06	9.40	20.69
Yeovil ...	466	6	260	11	26,930	17.30	16.44	9.65	10.81	23.60
TOTAL of Rural Districts	4,708	63	3,464	60	276,770	17.01	18.71	12.51	11.27	13.02
Administrative County	8,877	139	6,967	130	533,570	16.63	18.13	13.06	11.23	14.64
England and Wales 1963						18.20		12.2		21.1

TABLE 6

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Puerperal Pyrexia	Meningococcal Infection	Dysentery	Whooping Cough	Pneumonia	Poliomyelitis	Erysipelas	Food Poisoning	Tuberculosis - Pulmonary	Tuberculosis - Non-Pulmonary	Typhoid Fever	Enteric and Paratyphoid Fever	Acute Encephalitis
URBAN DISTRICTS															
Bridgwater	441	5	12	1	—	24	—	—	5	—	4	—	—	—	—
Burnham... ..	473	8	1	—	—	3	4	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Chard	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Clevedon	219	4	2	—	—	5	—	1	1	—	4	—	—	—	—
Crewkerne	8	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Frome	58	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	—
Glastonbury	250	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—
Ilminster	6	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Keynsham	348	2	—	—	—	15	—	—	—	—	1	9	—	—	—
Minehead	12	—	2	—	3	5	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—
Norton-Radstock	155	1	—	—	1	14	1	—	2	—	3	—	—	—	—
Portishead	54	1	—	—	1	29	2	—	1	—	6	1	—	—	—
Shepton Mallet	165	2	2	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Street	251	—	2	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Taunton	522	8	9	—	34	3	2	—	2	3	3	4	—	—	—
Watchet	125	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wellington	101	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
Wells	241	1	2	—	15	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Weston-super-Mare	382	8	2	—	1	4	12	—	—	—	20	—	—	—	—
Yeovil	334	4	5	—	—	5	5	—	3	—	5	2	—	—	—
RURAL DISTRICTS															
Axbridge	369	3	2	1	—	—	9	—	2	—	8	2	1	—	—
Bathavon	236	2	1	—	4	5	6	—	—	2	3	1	—	—	—
Bridgwater	372	16	3	—	3	6	8	—	—	—	4	1	—	—	—
Chard	70	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Clutton	490	3	—	—	3	1	11	—	5	1	3	—	—	—	—
Dulverton	168	—	—	—	—	5	5	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—
Frome	122	5	1	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Langport	381	6	—	—	—	—	27	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Long Ashton	517	6	—	—	3	86	5	—	2	3	6	3	—	1	1
Shepton Mallet	330	—	—	—	10	1	—	—	1	—	3	1	—	—	—
Taunton	310	8	3	—	1	2	1	—	—	—	6	2	—	—	—
Wellington	77	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Wells	216	3	4	—	79	—	—	—	1	3	2	—	—	—	—
Williton	193	4	—	—	1	1	3	—	1	1	4	—	—	—	—
Wincanton	383	—	1	—	—	15	17	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—
Yeovil	367	4	—	—	—	4	7	—	—	—	5	1	—	—	—
Urban Districts	4,159	49	41	2	58	110	28	1	15	3	61	20	—	—	—
Rural Districts	4,601	61	16	1	104	128	101	—	13	10	57	11	1	1	1
Administrative County	8,760	110	57	3	162	238	129	1	28	13	118	31	1	1	1
Comparative Figures for 1962	1,689	109	29	3	26	94	153	—	25	14	123	26	—	1	—

